



JANASANYOG, ASSAM  
CHIEF MINISTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL, DISPUR

PRESS RELEASE

No. 235/2021

**CM Dr. Sarma attends conference of Health Ministers of North Eastern States for promoting of AYUSH system of medicine**

**CM calls for systematic development of AYUSH sector in north-east**

**Government Ayurvedic College to be developed as Centre of Excellence: Sonowal**

**Dispur, August 28:** Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma along with Union Minister of AYUSH and Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal attended the Conference of Health Ministers of North Eastern States for promoting of AYUSH system of medicine on the theme "AYUSH at Your Service" at Assam Administrative Staff College in Guwahati today.

Addressing the delegates at the conference, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma said, "AYUSH is our heritage and intrinsically linked to our civilization. Whatever way we contribute to the AYUSH system, it will further enrich our civilization". The Chief Minister also said that the north eastern states have tremendous potential in the AYUSH sector as the region has rich bio-diversity. If this potential is developed in a systematic way, the north-east can become an AYUSH hub in future, he added.

The Chief Minister also underlined the role of Ayurvedic medicine in preventive and clinical management during Covid period. He also informed that the state government in a bid to boost AYUSH system has taken up construction of AYUSH Hospitals at Dudhnoi and Majuli. While construction of the AYUSH hospital at Dudhnoi is already complete, the hospital at Majuli would be completed soon.

The Chief Minister also said that presently Assam has one Government Ayurvedic College. Considering the potential of the sector, he urged the Union AYUSH Minister for granting another Ayurvedic college in Assam and informed that land for the same has already been identified at Dudhnoi. He also assured to complete construction of the college in record time along with deployment of all necessary staff for its establishment.

Union Minister of AYUSH and Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal in his speech highlighted the potential of the north east to be the growth hub of the country. Considering the availability of natural resources including the abundance of medicinal plants as well as popularity of traditional medicines in the region, the Union Minister informed that adequate emphasis has been given by his ministry to utilize the potentiality of the north east in the AYUSH sector.

Sonowal informed that the AYUSH Ministry would set up 100 AYUSH dispensaries, 1000 Health & Wellness Centres in the north east along with one Ayurvedic College at Goalpara in Assam under National AYUSH Mission. The Ayurvedic College would be set up with a project cost of Rs. 70 crore. The Union Minister also announced that the Government Ayurvedic College at Guwahati would be developed as a Centre of Excellence.

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He further said that the National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) would establish a Facilitation Centre for processing of raw products in the region, besides steps would be taken for implementation of AYUSH Health Management System and setting up of Invest India Strategic Centre and Facilitation Bureau in the north-east.

Union Minister of State for AYUSH Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai Kalubhai, Health Minister of Assam Keshab Mahanta, Health Minister of Sikkim Dr. Mani Kumar Sarma and Health Minister of Nagaland S Pangnyu Phom also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, Director General of Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) Dr. N Srikanth, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of NMPB Shekhar Sanwal, Assistant Vice President of Invest India Astha Tyagi, Dr. Goodwin Newton of Dabur Research and Development Centre and Joint Advisor of AYUSH Dr. A Raghu made detailed presentation highlighting the potential and possibilities of the AYUSH sector in the north east and activities being implemented by the Ministry in the region.

Coinciding with the occasion, several publications brought out by CCRAS were also released by the dignitaries. While Vd. Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of AYUSH delivered the welcome speech, the vote of thanks was offered by the Special Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH Pramod Kumar Pathak. Several senior officials of the Ministry of AYUSH and representatives of the governments of the North Eastern states were present in the conference.

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