



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

PRESS RELEASE

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CM visits Kokrajhar, interacts with rescued children and intellectuals

Dispur, July 30: On the occasion of World Day Against Trafficking in Persons 2021 today, Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma interacted with 40 children and 2 adults, who were rescued from Sikkim recently by a Chirang Police team from the clutches of human traffickers, at the auditorium of Central Institute of Technology, Kokrajhar.

Reiterating State Government's commitment to eradicate human trafficking, Dr. Sarma said that this heinous crime would not be allowed to continue and he asserted that efforts are on to save all such vulnerable children through strong and strategic interventions. He listened to the children's harrowing experiences and said that all must join hands to erase those scars from their minds.

Later talking to media persons, he informed that Assam Police is continuing its search for the other children who were trafficked with those 42 rescued and major breakthroughs have been achieved. He also said that ASHA and Anganwadi Workers would visit the villages and conduct survey of all missing children.

He informed that direction has been issued to the Social Welfare Department to take steps in consultation with Child Welfare Committee for keeping these rescued children in good hostels and take care of their education and academic activities. Those staying with their parents would also be provided support for their education. Making them forget these experiences while motivating them towards achieving holistic development would be the prime objective, he said.

CEM, BTR Pramod Boro, MLA Lawrence Islary, EMs Reo Reoa Narzihary, Gautam Das, Ranendra Narzary and senior administrative and police officers were also present on the occasion.

Later, the Chief Minister also interacted with leading academicians, intellectuals, scholars and eminent citizens of BTR at the auditorium of Central Institute of Technology, Kokrajhar. Various issues regarding the educational development roadmap for BTR, achievement of holistic and sustainable growth across all socio-economic parameters in the region were discussed in the meeting.

Responding to the appeals of the participants, the Chief Minister informed that the Udalguri campus of Bodoland University would be made functional from next academic year and necessary faculty members would be recruited. Steps would also be taken to fill up vacant posts in colleges in BTR at the earliest, he said.

It was also decided during the discussion that tie-ups between CIT Kokrajhar and IIT Guwahati would be made on various aspects. The Chief Minister assured that steps would be taken to cover forest villages under ICDS of Social Welfare Department and

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Anganwadi Centres would be set up there. He urged the participating intellectuals to keep offering their valuable suggestions so that BTR's development gets expedited.

CEM BTR Pramod Bodo and several EMs were also present on the occasion.

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