



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

PRESS RELEASE

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CM Attends North-East Research Conclave 2022 at IIT Guwahati

CM Dr. Sarma bats for use of Science & Technology for betterment of society and nation

Govt of Assam & IIT Ghy sign MoU for Rs. 546-cr State-of-Art Super-Specialty Hospital

Dispur, May 20: Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma on Friday attended as guest of honour the 3-day long North-East Research Conclave 2022 being held at the premises of the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati from May 20 onwards.

A joint collaboration between IIT Guwahati, Science Technology & Climate Change Department and Department of Education of Government of Assam, the assemblage is aimed at providing a platform for academia and industry players to showcase their expertise, products and technology and to offer a common interface mechanism between stakeholders for sharing of ideas.

Speaking at the event, Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma lauded the role of the IIT Guwahati administration for the initiative, which he said would be a long step forward towards creation of an environment that encourages research and development among the scientific community and technology industry players. "I am informed that no other academic event of this magnitude related to research has ever been organised in any other location of the country. I would therefore like to extend my gratitude to Team IIT for organising this mega event with such elaborate arrangements. This is a reflection of the commitment and seriousness of IIT Guwahati towards research and development and promoting innovation," the Chief Minister stated.

"All guests and delegates present here today would acknowledge that science and technology is extremely vital for growth and prosperity of a nation. Rational and efficient use of science and technology allow for far greater penetration of services, health and nutrition, education, agriculture, water resources and basic infrastructure for innovative solutions," the Chief Minister stated.

Speaking on the New Education Policy's focus on research and innovation, Dr. Sarma said: "Our achievements in the field of science and technology need to be communicated to the society. Science must meet the rising aspirations of our people. Only when we strengthen innovation and research will our country stay competitive and move ahead."

"In recent years, the states in Northeast have come to the limelight for excellent laurels in innovations in the field of science and technology, biodiversity, organic farming, renewable energy, among others. However, to tap the full potential of our region, there is a need for greater focus on research and innovation with greater intensity than ever before," Dr. Sarma said, while appealing to the delegates, which included students from numerous educational institutions of the northeastern states, to help develop a culture that encourages scientific research and development.

Later in the day, the Chief Minister visited the exhibition that had display of various innovations and technologies by various industry players working in the field of science and technology.

MoU between Government of Assam and IIT Guwahati

Website: cm.assam.gov.in/assam.mygov.in E-mail: cmprcell09@gmail.com

 /CMOfficeAssam  /cmofficeassam



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On the side-lines of the North-East Research Conclave, the Government of Assam and IIT Guwahati signed a Memorandum of Understanding for setting up of a state-of-the-art “connected” multi-disciplinary super-specialty hospital in the premier technical education institute’s premises to be built at a cost of Rs. 546 crores approximately. Elaborating on the upcoming hospital, the Chief Minister stated that this initiative would provide a platform for cutting-edge research in the field of medical science through use of latest technologies and scientific innovations. “We shall be supporting IIT Guwahati with a financial grant of Rs. 546 crores and would also extend other support for a period of seven years in the first phase. This is for the first time that a state government has come forward to support a centrally funded technical institute in medical research and innovation,” the Chief Minister said.

Attending the event as Chief Guest, Union Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan praised Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma for the enthusiastic steps for development of science and technology he has taken ever since taking over charge as executive head of the state.

Today’s event was also attended by Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of State for Petroleum Rameshwar Teli, Union Minister of State for Education Dr. Subhash Sarkar, Union Minister of State for External Affairs Rajkumar Rajan Singh, Assam Cabinet Ministers Dr. Ranoj Pegu and Keshab Mahanta, Member of Parliament Queen Ojha, Sikkim Minister for Science and Technology Karma Loday Bhutia, along with thousands of other delegates.

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