



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

PRESS RELEASE

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PM addresses public rally at Kokrajhar

Bodo Peace Accord paves way for lasting peace: PM

PM's vision gives a new identity to NE: CM

Dispur, February 7: Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that development played an important role in removing secessionist tendency in North East and assured that surrendered militants of the NDFB would be rehabilitated through Central and State government initiatives. The Prime Minister also urged upon all militant groups of north east, Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of India to shun violence and join the path of peace and non-violence.

The Prime Minister said this while addressing a public rally at Khargaon-Tengapara in Kokrajhar district today. The rally was held to celebrate the success of Bodo Peace Accord signed by ABSU and all factions of NDFB with the Government of Assam and Government of India.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister also referred to Clause 6 of Assam Accord and assured that once the high level committee constituted by the Central Government submits its report, his government would take immediate steps for its implementation.

Further, the Prime Minister said that in the pretext of Citizenship Amendment Act several forces are creating confusion and spreading rumours that several millions will come and settle in Assam. He warned all those forces and said that anti-Assam and anti-India forces would not be tolerated.

Appreciating the ABSU, all factions of NDFB, BTC administration and the Government of Assam, the Prime Minister said that with successful signing of Bodo Peace Accord a longstanding issue has come to an end and this would lead to permanent peace in the region. He also urged the people to take a pledge to boost development and have faith in his government and not allow violence to return again.

Remembering the Father of the Nation, the Prime Minister said that achievements made through peace always become acceptable to all. He said that the Bodo Peace Accords which were signed earlier in 1993 and 2003 could not bring lasting peace in the region. However, with the latest Peace Accord, permanent peace has prevailed and it has met all demands of the organizations.



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He further said that development is now the first and foremost preference of his government.

While paying his tribute to Vishnavite saint Srimanta Sankaradeva, Prime Minister Modi said that the peace initiatives in the state were motivated by the philosophy of Sankaradeva. He at the same time referred to the names of Bodofa Upendra Nath Brahma and Rupnath Brahma and paid his tributes to them also.

Stating that the Bodo Peace Accord would not only benefit the Bodos but all communities living in the region, the Prime Minister observed that the Accord was a victory for all and most importantly it was a victory of peace and humanity. He said that the agreement would usher in a phase of sustained development and bring in prosperity to the region

He informed that under this Peace Accord, the existing Bodoland Territorial Areas District shall be renamed as 'Bodoland Territorial Region'. A Commission will examine and recommend the boundary of the region. This Accord will initiate the process of BTC to have more legislative, executive, administrative and financial powers. Further, a special financial package of Rs. 1500 crore would be provided by the Central and State Government for development initiatives in BTR. The Prime Minister hoped that the BTC Council would ensure equal development of all communities living within its administrative jurisdiction. He also appreciated the Assam government for its steps to preserve and promote the Bodo language.

The Prime Minister said that neglect by successive Central Governments earlier led the region towards unrest. The earlier governments made no effort to solve the issues of the region. He said that his government successfully developed the emotional connect with the people of the region through multiple initiatives and brought the central government at the doorstep of the people of the north east. He further informed that while the 13th Finance Commission sanctioned less than 90 thousand crore for the north east, his government in the 14th Finance Commission sanctioned around 3 lakh crore for the region. Besides, completing more than 3000 km road network in last three to four years, the Central Government converted the erstwhile metre gauge rail network to broad gauge and completed or renovated several airports in the NE. He also said that till 2014, there was only one water way in the region, however, things have changed for the better as 12 new water ways have been developed. Moreover, his government has expanded the internet network, sanctioned around Rs. 9000 crore for NE Gas Grid and completed all long pending projects and expedited implementation of ongoing projects have brought in visible growth in the region.



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Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal speaking on the occasion thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his guidance that led to the signing of the Accord and said that the pact was significant for the entire country in bringing peace. He also appreciated Union Home Minister Amit Shah for his endeavours in this regard. Chief Minister Sonowal further thanked ABSU and all factions of NDFB for signing the Accord. He also paid his tribute to Bodofa Upendra Nath Brahma and those who made supreme sacrifice in the Bodoland movement.

The Chief Minister said that the Bodo Peace Accord would equally help the Bodos and non-Bodos living within BTR and empower them socially, economically and politically. He also expressed hope that all communities would live peacefully in the region and take Assam forward to the path of development.

Stating that the Prime Minister after assuming office has taken several steps for growth of the region, he said that his vision has been instrumental in giving a new identity to the North East in the South East Asian countries.

While BTC Chief Hagrama Mohilary delivered the welcome speech, the meeting was also addressed by Minister of Finance, Health and Education etc. Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma. ABSU President Pramod Bodo also spoke on the occasion on behalf the organizations that signed the Bodo Peace Accord.

Earlier, the Prime Minister also laid a garland at a bust of Bodofa Upendra Nath Brahma on the dais.

The meeting was also graced by Governor Professor Jagdish Mukhi, Rajyasabha MP Biswajit Daimary, Bodo Sahitya Sabha President Taren Bodo, former MP UG Brahma, leaders of all factions of NDFB Ranjan Daimary, Gobinda Basumatary, Dhiren Bodo and B Swairagra and ABSU General Secretary Lawrence Islary.

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