



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

**PRESS RELEASE**

No. 176/2020

**CM appeals the people to maintain the lockdown extension called by PM**

**We must stay united during this difficult time to defeat COVID-19: CM**

**Dispur, April 14:** Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today addressed media persons at his residence in Dibrugarh on the first day of Assamese New Year and Rongali Bihu and appreciated the people of Assam for observing 21 day national lockdown call given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He also urged the people to follow the lockdown extension call given by Prime Minister Modi till 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2020 in order to contain coronavirus in the country and emphasised on strictly adhering to social distancing norms so that COVID-19 spread can be totally controlled during this lockdown extension period.

Appreciating the roles played by health department, food and civil supplies department, police, safai karmi, ANM, asha karmi, MPWs etc. in containing coronavirus outbreak in Assam, the Chief Minister thanked Prime Minister Modi's swift and decisive action which has resulted in country's better performance in this fight against the deadly virus. He also underlined the need to maintain hygiene practices like hand wash and social distancing norms to control coronavirus as no cure or vaccine has been found against the virus till now. Urging the people of the state not to take the lockdown measures lightly, Sonowal warned that any negligence to maintain lockdown would seriously impact the government's efforts to prevent the outbreak and break the chain of spread.

Saying that Assam's people have shown tremendous resilience and discipline till now against COVID-19 and many Assamese people were stuck at different places of the county and abroad during this festive season of Rongali Bihu, he urged these people to patiently wait for the situation to improve and bad times to pass so that they can unite with their family members again while defeating this deadly virus. It is important for them to stay wherever they are to ensure the safety of themselves and their loved ones. He also said that the state government was fully prepared to handle any steep rise in the number of patients in the coming days and he assured that the help of the people the state government would be able to overcome this challenge posed by COVID-19.

Sonowal made the appeal to the people of the state to light an earthen lamp at 6 P.M. today in their households to wish for good times and for showing the resolve to fight the virus in unison.

Later, the Chief Minister also visited the temporary shelter set up by Dibrugarh district administration for destitute people at Khanikar and served them meal. He also appealed the people to help out those in distress during these difficult times and said that the state government was also taking steps to provide food items to poor and marginalised

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section of the society. He also paid tributes to Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar on the occasion of latter's birth anniversary.

**Swakkhyar/14.4.2020.**