

## PRESS RELEASE

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No. 44/2020

## Sonowals hails Union Budget 2020-21 Hails it pro-people, pro-farmer

**Dispur, February 1:**Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal welcomed the Budget 2020-21 and termed it pro-people as the budget is structured on the overall theme of 'Ease of Living'. It would also fulfil the aims and aspirations of all sections of the people of the country.

Following the presentation of budget by the Union Finance Minister in the Lok Sabha today for the year 2020-21, Chief Minister Sonowal said that the budget hinges on the welfare of the farmers as it has categorically mentioned the initiatives such as Agriculture credit target of Rs. 15 lakh crore. Moreover, schemes like 'Kisan Rail' and 'Kisan Udaan' for a seamless cold chain supply of perishable items and expansion of PM-KUSUM to provide 20 lakh farmers for setting up stand-alone solar pumps, would greatly benefit the farmers and persons associated with allied sectors.

Chief Minister Sonowal also said that the budget will essentially help Assam and other North Eastern states to climb the ladder of optimum growth as 'Kisan Rail' and 'Kisan Udaan' will help the farmers of Assam and other North Eastern states for a seamless cold chain supply of their produce and sell them in international markets in the wake of the Centre's 'Act East Policy'. Chief Minister Sonowal said that the farmers of Assam have dignified position in the national agricultural landscape of the country as he pointed that the provision of 'Kisan Rail' and 'Kisan Udaan'are tantamount to acknowledging skills of state's farmers and giving them the respect and position, they deserve. This budget provision would strengthen the agro-economy of the state, Sonowal added.

Moreover, hailing the budget provision of selecting Sivasagar among the five archaeological sites in the country to be developed as iconic sties with onsite museums, Sonowal said that the step shows Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Central Government's love and priority to Assam.

He also said that the budget provision such as 890 km Dhubri-Sadiya connectivity, the completion of which will be achieved within 2022 will boost economic activity through the water ways. Chief Minister Sonowal also thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for presenting the budget which would essentially be friendly towards middle class and lower middle class as the income tax reform proposed in the budget would help them to cut their burden on income tax.

SD/ February 1, 2020