



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

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CM attends arms laying down ceremony of Bodo militants

The Bodo peace agreement would usher in a period of peace of development: CM

Dispur, January 30: “Bodos are very hard working and brave. I welcome all the members of Bodo militant groups to the mainstream society and urge them to work for all round development of BTC and Assam. Development of the Bodos is development of Assam” Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today said while attending the arms laying down ceremony of members of all factions of NDFB militant organisation at GMCH auditorium.

It is to be mentioned, a total of 1615 members from all factions of Bodo militant organisation NDFB today laid down their arms. Among these, 836 members from NDFB (P), 579 from NDFB (RD) and 200 members of NDFB (S) were there.

Saying that it was a historic day coinciding with the 72nd death anniversary of father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi, Chief Minister Sonowal stated this day would mark a new chapter of peace and development in the Bodo areas. He also informed that a comprehensive rehabilitation policy would be formulated for providing employment opportunities to the surrendered militants so that they could make meaningful contribution to the nation building process.

Stressing on the need to work unitedly for the peace and development of Assam, the Chief Minister urged the surrendered militants to bring about rapid development of the State cutting across plains and hills, Brahmaputra and Barak valleys through hardwork and dedication while utilising their potential to the fullest. He also invoked Prime Minister Narendra Modi's importance on Northeast region to make it the New Engine of growth for the country while identifying the region as 'Astalaxmi'.

Thanking Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah for their initiative to bring permanent peace to Assam and North East, the Chief Minister also appreciated the roles played by Minister of Finance, Health, Education etc. Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma and BTC Chief Hagrama Mohilary for bringing this process to fruition.

Saying that the accord between the Bodo groups and the Central and State Governments would further strengthen the unity and integrity of Assam, Sonowal said that peace is a must for bringing development to the state and the region. In this regard, the Chief Minister highlighted the roles played by Prime Minister Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah to bring permanent peace to the region and usher in a rapid development.

The Chief Minister also said that the peace agreement signed with Bodo militant groups have been welcomed by all sections of the society and even people residing outside the



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state and country have also expressed happiness over the development which would bring peace to BTC areas.

Minister of Finance, Health, Education etc. Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma said informed that Bodo Autonomous Council bill would be tabled soon and the full autonomy committed to the Bodos would be provided. He also said that all measures for the rehabilitation of the surrendered militants would be taken so that they do not need to take up arms again. He also urged organisations like ULFA (I) to come to talks with the government for bringing permanent peace to the State.

He also informed that Prime Minister would visit Kokrajhar on 7th February to take part in the ceremony to celebrate the signing of the peace agreement.

BTC Chief Hagrama Mohilary and ABSU President Pramod Boro also spoke on the occasion and hoped that the peace agreement would be the harbinger of long lasting peace and development in BTC areas and the rest of the State. They also urged the State Government to take measures for resolving the pending cases against surrendered cadres.

Water Resource Minister Keshab Mahanta, Social Welfare Minister Pramila Rani Brahma, Cultural Affairs Minister Naba Kumar Doley, several MLAs, Chief Secretary Kumar Sanjay Krishna, DGP Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta, GOC 4 Corps Lt Gen Shantanu Dayal, Addl. Chief Secretary of Home Department Jishnu Baruah, ADGP (Law and Order) GP Singh, IGP SB Hiren Nath were also present at the programme among other dignitaries.

Swakkhyar/ January 30, 2020.