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CM launches several projects of Irrigation Dept and distributes appointment letters

State's farmers must contribute in the mission of Atma Nirbhar India: CM

Dispur, December 30: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today ceremonially launched irrigation projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY) in the state at a programme organised by Irrigation Department, Government of Assam at Kumar Bhaskar Barman Kshetra at Amingaon, Kamrup.

Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana is a national mission, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2016, to improve farm productivity and ensure better utilization of the resources in the country while endeavouring to double farmers' income by 2022. Under this scheme, 9699 pumps would be distributed to 35793 farmers in Assam. The scheme would benefit a total of 3 lakh bighas of farming land in the state and total cost of the scheme is Rs 539.05 crore.

At today's programme, the Chief Minister also laid the foundation stone of a central laboratory, an auditorium and a guest house of Irrigation Department to come up at Betkuchi in the city. He also ceremonially distributed appointment letters to 6 of the total 397 newly recruited section assistants of Irrigation Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister highlighted various initiatives taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi led Central Government to help the farmers in increasing their production and said due to those initiatives the target of doubling farmers' income by 2022 would be achieved. He highlighted schemes such as PMKSY, soil health card, providing Rs. 5000 to the farmers under PM Kishan Sanman Nidhi, providing subsidy of Rs. 10,000 to Kishan Credit Card holders etc. and said that all the schemes launched by Prime Minister Modi led central government have facilitated rapid growth of agricultural sector in the country while encouraging the farmers to grow their income.

Urging the farmers in the State to take advantage of all the schemes and strive to contribute in the mission of Atma Nirbhar India, Sonowal said that during the present State Government 48 lakh farmer families in the State have been provided help in increasing their production. He also remarked that promises given by the present State government while assuming power in 2016 have been fulfilled to a great extent and therefore the target of a corruption free, pollution free, illegal immigrants free and terrorism free Assam could be achieved.

He highlighted laying down of arms by militants' in the State as an important development and said militants' coming back to the mainstream has given boost to State Governments' efforts to build a peaceful Assam. He also pointed out initiatives for rooting out corruption in APSC while giving jobs to meritorious but poor candidates on a transparent

basis, eliminating incidents of rhino poaching in Kaziranga National Park, planting of 8.5 crore trees in the State, increasing forest cover in Assam by 222 square km as per the Forest Survey of India report as successful steps taken by the State Government to bring holistic development.

He also highlighted successfully organising Advantage Assam: Global Investors' Summit in 2018 in the State and landing of Rs. 55,000 crore out of the total Rs. 79,000 crore investments committed to the State. He also said due to these investments industries have come up in the State and job opportunities have opened up for the youths. Informing that 48 km riverine stretch at Indo-Bangla border has been sealed with Israeli technology which has reduced infiltration from across the border, Sonowal asserted that the present State government has been successful in making the State the gateway to South East Asia and ASEAN countries and he urged the State's farmers to capture the markets of neighbouring countries with their products.

The Chief Minister also reiterated State Governments' commitment to safeguard the language, literature, culture and heritage of all indigenous communities living in the State and he thanked the people of Assam for their support and cooperation in the four and a half years of the present State government which has resulted in speedy implementation of various schemes.

Minister of State (independent) for Irrigation Bhabesh Kalita, Commissioner & Secretary of Irrigation Department Rakesh Kumar also spoke at the programme which was attended by MLA Ashok Sarma, DC Kamrup Kailash Kartik among others.

Swakkhyar/ December 30, 2020.