



JANASANYOG, ASSAM
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CM holds Video Conference with Assam Chamber of Commerce

Dispur, May 5: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today held a video conference with the District Presidents of Assam Chamber of Commerce at his conference hall at Janata Bhawan and appreciated the role played by the trader community of the state during the difficult period of lockdown due to COVID-19.

Saying that only because of the help and cooperation all sections of the society Assam has successfully observed two phases of lockdown, the Chief Minister said that though certain businesses and economic activities have been provided exemptions in the third phase of lockdown, people belonging to all walks of life must stay alert and cautious against the deadly virus as the battle against COVID-19 is far from over. Strict observance of social distancing, hand washing and cleanliness protocols is must to overcome the challenge posed by the global pandemic, he said.

Reassuring the traders that State Government was fully aware about the heavy losses the business community of the state was incurring due to the lockdown, Sonowal urged them to stay motivated during the tough times as the COVID-19 has affected global businesses and economies adversely. He appreciated the role played by traders' community in providing essential commodities to the people of the state and sought their continued support in this fight against COVID-19.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's bold step of declaring lockdown in the country, the Chief Minister said that due to the Prime Minister's timely action the nation was performing considerably well in containing the coronavirus outbreak. He also said that every difficult phase presents an opportunity and underlined the need to make the state's economy resilient by identifying its inherent strengths and possibilities.

Responding to requests made by the Assam Chamber of Commerce participants such as rescheduling of daily curfew timing from 7 PM to 6 AM, appealing the commercial building owners to exempt or reduce the rents, specially for restaurants etc, Sonowal said that State Government would consider their grievances with empathy while also calling on the traders to keep patience till the situation returns to normal. Innovative thinking to unleash the latent potential was the need of the hour, he asserted.

Chairman of Assam Chamber of Commerce (ACC) Rupam Goswami moderated the interactions with all the District Presidents of the commerce body which was also attended by Legal Adviser to the Chief Minister Shantanu Bharali, President of ACC Sanjive Narain among others.

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