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Sonowal visits Srirampur screening camp
CM asks civil and police administration to stop all movements without COVID 19 screening through inter-state borders
Asks police to stops movements through vulnerable points

Dispur, May 6: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal passed a directive to the civil and police administration of Kokrajhar and Dhubri districts to put a spanner on the entry of people into Assam through Srirampur and Chagolia-Boxirhat gates and other vulnerable points without proper screening to aid State government's perpetual efforts to beat the rise of COVID 19.

Visiting a screening camp adjacent to Srirampur gate at Gossaigaon Sub-Division in Kokrajhar today to take stock of its sequel of activities to screen every person's movement from across the inter-state boundary in the face of COVID 19 pandemic, Chief Minister Sonowal said that the civil and police administration together should keep a tab on every entry point of districts to ensure that no body can enter Assam without going through COVID 19 screening protocols. Sonowal spent some time with every personnel posted at Srirampur Gate and screening camp including doctors, paramedics, police and asked them to ensure proper screening and not to allow anybody to enter Assam from across the state without passing through mandatory COVID 19 screening.

Chief Minister Sonowal also asked the police to keep a strict surveillance on some reported vulnerable points to thwart any design of unauthorised movement from the neighbouring state. Deputy Commissioner Dhubri Anantlal Gyani informed the Chief Minister about the existence of 15 such vulnerable points, as he apprised the Chief Minister that he ensured deployment of CRPF, Assam Police personnel and Village Defence Parties for round the clock surveillance. He also drew the attention of the Chief Minister that the district administration has set up a quarantine centre at an area adject to Chagolia Gate with all facilities to quarantine around one thousand people.

Meanwhile, DC Kokrajhar Partha Pratim Mazumdar informed the Chief Minister that the district administration has ensured constant monitoring along with Sonkosh river to rout any design of people sneaking into Assam swimming across the river. He also said that adequate arrangements have been made to screen the health status of drivers, handymen and others coming to Assam through Srirampur Gate and maintained that strict instruction has been given to ensure that nobody can come in the state without going through mandatory screening. It may be noted that during the lockdown period as many as 32,887 goods-laden trucks have entered Assam.

Later talking to the reporters, Chief Minister Sonowal said that in view of third phase of extended lockdown, State government has directed all DCs across the state to enforce the lockdown following all advisories given by the Union Health Ministry. He also said that, State

government has taken steps to bring back the people of Assam stranded in different places of the country. He also informed them that at the Chagolia and Srirampur gates bordering West Bengal, State government in close association with the district administrations of Kokrajhar and Dhubri have been taken adequate steps to screen the health of all passengers including transporters.

He also said that all the departments in the state have been working day in day out to ensure health check-ups at all inter-state entry points of the state. Considering the volume of work being undertaken at Srirampur, he decided to visit the place to see and interact with the manpower engaged here to undertake screening along with other ancillary activities.

Giving the snapshots of all the steps that the State government has taken to keep COVID 19 under check in the state, Sonowal made it unequivocally clear that his government has taken all steps to ensure that no movement takes place from the interstate border without adequate screening for COVID 19. He also said that the entire world is going through very crucial stage and therefore, people are going through immense problems. However, in order to defeat the virus, everybody has to follow the advisories of the health department.

Social Welfare Minister Pramila Rani Brahma, MP Rajya Sabha Biswajit Daimary, MLAs Bimal Bora, Mrinal Saikia, Ashok Singhi, Majendra Narzary, former BTC Chief Hagrama Mohilary, Principal Secretary BTC Siddhartha Singh, IGP BTC Anurag Agarwala and host of others were present during Chief Minister's visit.

SD/ PD/ May 6, 2020.