## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## CM Attends Seminar on Agricultural Reforms The three historic bills will revolutionise farming sector: CM

**Dispur, October 01:** Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today attended a seminar on "Agricultural Reforms Acts-Historic Steps Taken By Modi Govt." at Assam Administrative Staff College today in presence of Union Minister of State for Sports and Youth Welfare Kiren Rijiju and Union Minister of State for Food Processing Rameswar Teli.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for taking steps to pass three historic bills in parliament to empower farmers of the country and bring rapid development to the agricultural sector. He said the bills have paved away for removing the "mandi" system which favoured the middlemen who dictated the price of items produced by the farmers. Now the bills have unshackled the farming sector and empowered the farmers to sell their products in any part of the country without any restrictions, he said.

Notably, as part of the several landmark decisions by the Central Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi in last six years to ensure farmers' welfare, three farm bills have recently been passed by the parliament. These bills are the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020, the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020 and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2020.

Saying that the bills have realised the Prime Minister's motto of 'sabka sath, sabka vikash, sabka viswas', Sonowal remarked 'one nation, one market' concept has been implemented by the passage of three bills. Since assuming power in 2014, Prime Minister Modi has been relentlessly striving to develop the agricultural sector of the country through schemes like Pradan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Fasal Bima Yojana, Kishan Sanman Nidhi, PM KISHAN etc.

The Chief Minister also said that the State government has taken steps to develop the agricultural sector in the State by providing a tractor to 14,000 villages with a target of equipping all 26 thousand villages with a tractor and facilitating air cargo service through which State's farmers can export their products to international market. Because of proactive roles played by both Central and State governments Assam's educated youths have now started taking agriculture as a means of livelihood as they have seen tremendous prospect in the sector including fishery, piggery, dairy farming etc.

Speaking at the programme Union Minister of State for Sports and Youth Welfare Kiren Rijiju said that these bills brought by the government would give freedom to the farmers and give them choice to sell their crop anywhere in the country. Complete freedom has been given to the farmers as there are no restrictions in selling their produce and the farmers would get mandatory support from state to strengthen the farm sector and increase production, he added.

Agriculture Minister Atul Bora, MP Pradan Baruah, Media Advisor to CM Hrishikesh Goswami, MLA Terosh Gowala were also present at the programme alongwith agricultural scientists, progressive farmer among others.

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