



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

PRESS RELEASE

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CM attends SDG Conclave 2020

SDG Conclave will give vital push to sustainable development: CM

Dispur, February 24: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said that the SDG Conclave 2020 added a new chapter in the development process of the north eastern region. The Chief Minister observed that the Conclave would strengthen inter-state relations among the states of the region and give vital push to sustainable development.

The Chief Minister while speaking at the inaugural session of the SDG Conclave 2020 organized by NITI Aayog in association with DONER Ministry, NEC, UNDP, RIS, Chambers of Commerce and Tata Trusts at Assam Administrative Staff College in Guwahati said that to ensure quality life for younger generation, there is a need to catapult growth in the country. Lauding Prime Minister Narendra Modi for identifying the potential and possibilities of the region, the Chief Minister said that as a result of his visionary initiatives people in the country today look at north east with a different view point. He said that there is a new found confidence among the people of the region and this would help in the growth of the North East.

Appreciating the NITI Aayog for organizing the Conclave in Guwahati, which is the first of its kind in the country, the Chief Minister said that innovation will open new floodgates of opportunities. He said that initiatives of NITI Aayog would also help in taking forward the vision of the Prime Minister. He said that due to Prime Minister Modi's principle of 'Transformation through Transportation' there is rapid change in the connectivity sector in North East today. Underlining Prime Minister's Act East Policy, the Chief Minister said that a new relationship today develops between the North East India and ASEAN nations. This has also helped Assam to emerge as the gateway to the South East Asian countries, he added.

The Chief Minister also requested the NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar to take steps for setting up a branch office of the Aayog in Guwahati. He said that setting up of such an office would help in the growth of the region. He also highlighted the milestones achieved by the Aspirational Districts of the State. He further said that this Conclave would fulfil the vision of "*Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat*".

DONER Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh while speaking on the occasion said that there was a time when the name of North East brought the image of an area known for



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terrorism, corruption and insecurity. He said that proactive steps taken by the Prime Minister changed the entire perception about this region. He also informed that as per direction of the Prime Minister, today the Union Ministers travel to North East every fortnight to take stock of progress of implementation of development schemes which reflected the Prime Minister's commitment for development of the region. He also highlighted the steps taken by his ministry for development of north east.

NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Dr. Rajiv Kumar in his speech urged the States to take up the SDG goals on priority basis and requested to take special measures for their realization. This would also help in fulfilling local aspirations, he added. The Vice Chairman also urged all the Chief Ministers of NE states to agree with NITI Aayog's directives to set up SDG Monitoring Units in their respective States.

Coinciding the occasion, four reports on SDG prepared by RIS, Tata Trusts and other institutions were also released.

While Minister of Finance of the Government of Assam Dr. Himanata Biswa Sarma delivered the welcome speech, the inaugural session was also addressed by Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu, Mizoram CM Zoramthanga, Sikkim CM Prem Singh Tamang, Tripura CM Biplab Kumar Deb, CEO of NITI Aayog Amitabh Kant, UN Resident Coordinator of India Renata Lok Dessallien.

Food & Civil Supplies Minister James Sangma, Planning & Coordination Minister of Nagaland Neiba Kronu, officials of the State and Central governments were present in the inaugural session.

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