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CHIEF MINISTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL, DISPUR**

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No. 103

Sonowal attends valedictory of the three-day Regional Livestock and Poultry Show

Livestock and Poultry has potential to realise Atmanirbhar Assam

Dispur, February 10: The three-day Regional Livestock and Poultry Show, 2021 held at Farm Gate Campus in Khanapara came to end today where Chief Minister Sonowal said that livestock and poultry sector have the potential to be force-multiplier in realizing 'Atmanirbhar Assam'.

Speaking at the valedictory function of the regional show here, Chief Minister Sonowal said that livestock and veterinary sector of the state which fulfils the requirement of the consumers of not only Assam but also entire North East can propel the state towards self-reliance. Thanking Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department of the state, Sonowal asked the department to develop a vision for growth and development for Assam.

The Chief Minister said that in this age of competition, the farmers and entrepreneurs should strive for capacity building so that they can fully utilise the inherent potential of agriculture and its allied sectors. He also mentioned that during the tenure of his government more than 400 skill centres were set up in different parts of the state. He said that Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department of the state remained dormant for several years. It was only after the taking over of Atul Bora, the department witnessed huge turn around in the sector leading the department to contribute to the development of the state.

Stating the Rs. 33 thousand crore Chief Minister Samagra Grammya Unnayan Yojana, Sonowal said that his government during the last 4.5 years took several steps for the empowerment of the farmers. He also attributed his government's several steps taken so far for the empowerment of farmers to giving adequate respect to the farmers of the state. Speaking on the dignity of labour, Sonowal said that there is no difference between Chief Minister and farmers as everybody works to contribute to the growth of the state. Speaking on the vocal for local, Sonowal largely endorsed the local production to fulfil the local demands. Stating Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for vocal, local and global, Sonowal hailed the farmers of the state in exporting their produce in other parts of the globe like Dubai, London and other South East Asian countries.

Chief Minister Sonowal responding to Agriculture Minister Atul Bora's demand of setting up of Veterinary University in state, Sonowal said that government will clear decks for the establishment of Veterinary University in the state.

Agriculture, Veterinary, Animal Husbandry etc. Minister Atul Bora while speaking on the occasion said that agriculture has immense potential which can catapult the growth of the state. Appreciating the farmers of the state, Bora said that the agriculture production during the Corona virus pandemic in Assam registered a phenomenal growth which not only served the

demands of the state but other neighbouring countries as well. Considering the important role played by the livestock sector in the state, Bora said that an artificial insemination centre will be set up in the state for rearing high yielding livestock.

Chief Minister Sonowal on the occasion released a souvenir and leaflets. In recognition to the contribution of the progressive farmers, Sonowal presented mementos, certificates and cheques to 14 farmers and entrepreneurs. He also visited the stalls put up by the SHGs and progressive farmers and other entrepreneurs and interacted with them.

Water Resources Minister Keshab Mahanta, President Veterinary Council of India Umesh Sharma, Commissioner and Secretary Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department Shyam Jagannathan also spoke on the occasion.

Chairman Assam Livestock and Poultry Corporation Manoj Saikia, Director Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department Ashok Kumar Barman and a host of the others were present on the occasion. It may be noted that the show which began on 8 February came to end today.

SD/ February 10, 2021.