



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

PRESS RELEASE

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CM takes part at 'Brahmaputra Aamantran Abhiyan'

CM stresses on realizing tourism, water sports and navigation potential of the Brahmaputra River

Dispur, January 5: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today participated in the 'Brahmaputra Aamantran Abhiyan', a river rafting expedition and a public outreach programme organized by the Brahmaputra Board at Majuli. The Union Jalshkati Ministry under the supervision of the Brahmaputra Board has launched this expedition on 23rd December from Gelling in Arunachal Pradesh with a view to unearth the untapped potential of the Brahmaputra River as well as to study the causes of river erosion besides attracting the young generation to realise the opportunities available on both the banks of the river. This expedition is jointly led by the Brahmaputra Board and the NDRF.

Speaking on the occasion in a programme held at Majuli College playground at Dariapar in Majuli, Chief Minister Sonowal said that the 'Brahmaputra Aamantran Abhiyan' expedition would be helpful in realising the vast potential of the river Brahmaputra. The Chief Minister at the same time stressed on chalking out appropriate plan and programmes to utilise the rich potential of the river.

Underlining the intrinsic relationship of the river Brahmaputra with the culture, tradition and lifestyle of the people of the state, the Chief Minister observed that optimum utilization of the potential of the river would significantly contribute in boosting economy of the State. He also spoke about devising plans for making adequate use of the potentialities of the tributaries of Brahmaputra and Barak rivers and viewed that the expedition would prove to be a boon for sustainable development of the people living on both banks of the rivers. Chief Minister Sonowal further laid stress on realising the tourism, water sports and navigation potentials of the Brahmaputra River.

Suhashini Shekhawat who is leading the rafting team on behalf of the NDRF while speaking on the occasion said that the expedition reached Majuli after successfully covering a distance of around 450 kms from its starting point at Gelling in Arunachal Pradesh. She highlighted the thrilling experiences the team encountered at various places during the expedition so far. Shekhawat said that the pollution level of the river Brahmaputra was much lower than Ganga and other rivers of the country and stressed on joint initiatives of the government and the public for maintaining the pollution free environment of the river. She also urged the youth to work for preservation of the rich potential and pollution free environment of the Brahmaputra.

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MP Pradan Baruah, Inspector General of NDRF Amarendra Kumar Sengar, MD of BCPL Ridip Hazarika and Chairman of Brahmaputra Board Rajiv Yadav also spoke on the occasion. Majuli DC Bikram Koiri, SP and several other dignitaries were also present in the programme.

BG/Swakkhyar/RB/January 5, 2021