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CHIEF MINISTER'S PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL, DISPUR

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Sonowal interacts with agriculture and animal husbandry entrepreneurs

Dispur, April 20: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today met a group of agriculture and animal husbandry entrepreneurs at Brahmaputra State Guest House here today and stated that since economy of the state is agriculture based the sector has to be used increasingly to lead the state's fight to revitalise state's economy which bore a dent in view of COVID 19 pandemic.

Chief Minister Sonowal informed the delegation that consequent upon Centre's advisories, State government has given relaxations to state's agricultural activities and therefore, several agri-based economic activities have been resumed amid social distancing norms. Drawing the attention of the delegation, Chief Minister Sonowal said that during the lockdown period, the state has got the opportunity to assess the demand and supply requirement of agriculture products. Based on the outcome of the assessment, the State government is of the view that there is tremendous demand of the local produce and the state has to capitalise the market opportunity by correspondingly increasing the production and market chain. He also asked the delegation to motivate the farming community to work sustainably to capture the market of neighbouring states besides the countries like Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar. Sonowal said that there is a possibility that around 4.5 lakh youths of Assam would come back to their state from different states after the lockdown, so there should be a concerted effort on the part of agri-preneurs and animal entrepreneurs to motivate them to agriculture so that the economy of the state can be revitalised.

Chief Minister also stressed on starting a survey in the state to do a mapping of the strong points of agriculture and make the state's agriculture sector self-reliance in line with Vietnam.

Chairman Sitajakhala DUSS limited Rajib Sharma, Vice Chairman Sitajakhala DUSS limited Pushpadhar Das, Managing Director Sitajakhala DUSS limited Amiya Kumar Das, progressive farmer Bokakhat Bikash Bharali, Consultant Scientist One Health Epidemiology and Data Science, Guwahati Bhagat Lal Dutta, farmer Goalpara (Black rice) Upendra Rabha and others were present during the interaction.

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