



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

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release No. 211/2020

Sonowal meets players and officials of Assam Olympic Association

Urges players to be focused even during lockdown

Dispur, April 25: Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said that in view of COVID 19 pandemic and its repercussions in the field of sports, though several national and international sports events have been either postponed or cancelled, sports persons of Assam should continue their practices to keep them motivated even during the lockdown.

Chairing a meeting with the office bearers of Assam Olympic Association (AOA) and some of the promising players at Brahmaputra State Guest House here today, Chief Minister Sonowal sharing his words of wisdom asked the players of the state to remain focused and continue their practices to keep them in good stead.

Sonowal said that like in most parts of the world, though the apocalypse in the form of novel coronavirus has had its impact in Assam as well, resulting in lockdown to contain and control the progression of the viral infection, the promising sports persons should take the time to introspect their past performances and focus on their future with right kind of commitment and motivation. Chief Minister Sonowal also said that for a sportsperson, physical fitness is one of the most vital requirements to excel in his or her vocation. He, therefore, urged upon the players not to be bogged down by the pandemic and use the time to upkeep their physical fitness following all norms of social distancing.

Chief Minister Sonowal who is also the President of Assam Olympic Association asked the office bearers of the Association to give right kind of facilities to the players to help them keep their tempo going. He also said that during the lockdown period he took out his time to have telephonic conversation with the office bearers of the sports associations at the district levels and asked them to keep themselves focused and help the players of their respective districts after the lockdown. He also said that State government would render all possible help to different sports bodies so as to enable them to follow their fixtures during the post lockdown period.

The office bearers of AOA during the meeting expressed their gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for having imposed the lockdown to fight against novel coronavirus. They also said that they on their parts along with the sports persons did their best in creating awareness among the public to adhere to the norms of lockdown. The players also apprised the Chief

Minister as to how they continued their practice keeping themselves inside and following the lockdown protocols.

Chief Minister's Media Adviser Hrishikesh Goswami, his Legal Adviser Santanu Bharali, Secretary Assam Olympic Association Lakhya Konwar, journalist Pranay Bordoloi, other office bearers of AOA, sports persons like Shivangi Sharma, Tanaya Choudhury, Upasa Talukdar, Kempy Bodo, Jyotirman Bora, Ayan Rashid and Pragynan Medhi were present at the meeting.

SD/PB/PD/ April 25, 2020.