

PRESS RELEASE

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AIDC, Singapore Firm Ink 'Letter of Intent' for Infra Development

Assam to benefit immensely from Infra expertise of the firm: CM

Assam, Singapore share Organic Relationship: CM Dr. Sarma

Dispur, July 4: The Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) and Singapore-headquartered firm Surbana Jurong, in presence of Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma and the South-East Asian city nation's Senior Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam, signed a "Letter of Intent" at the Radisson Blu Hotel here today.

Speaking at the event, Chief Minister Dr. Sarma stated that the signing of the "letter of intent" would add a new strength to the "organic relationship" between Assam and Singapore. Dr. Sarma, stressing on the need for a masterplan to transform Guwahati into a world-class city, added the expertise of Surbana Jurong in the field of urban infrastructure development would be of immense help towards meeting that aim.

Dr. Sarma further spoke about the prospect that Assam would provide to industries across the world in relation to the centre-stage it holds in the Act East Policy. He asked representatives of Surbana Jurong to make the best use of the opportunities the infrastructure and allied sectors in Assam offer.

Dr. Sarma also stressed upon the need for critical infrastructures such as cold-storage, supply-chain infrastructure, and modern modes of transportation, among others. "Due to lack of infrastructure such as cold storage, etc, many of Assam's produce are not able to reach markets where these products would be bought at attractive rates. As a result of which, a portion of the produce are sold at distress price. Focussing on such infrastructure would be of immense help to farmers of the state," the Chief Minister added.

Singapore Senior Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam lauded the role of the Chief Minister for the steps that have been taken for overall development of Assam. Terming the Chief Minister as a visionary leader, the Singapore minister expressed hope that in days to come, the relationship between his country and Assam would reach newer heights. "Now that we have crossed the worst phase of Covid-19 spread, and the world resumes on path to recovery, Assam must utilise its full potential in the field of economic growth," Shanmugaratnam stated, adding: "I am certain we (Singapore and Assam) would be very good partners when it comes to cooperation in each other's field of expertise."

High Commissioner of Singapore to India Simon Wong Wie Kuen, Assam Industries and Commerce Minister Bimal Bora were also present during the ceremonial signing of the letter of intent.

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