

PRESS RELEASE

No. 334/2019

Students' Internship Programme 2019 ends

Sonowal calls upon students to imbibe virtues of democratic leadership

Dispur, July 31: The 30 days Students' Internship Programme of Assam Legislative Assembly ended today with Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal urged upon the students to imbibe the qualities of democratic leadership to achieve success in all aspects of life.

Speaking at the valedictory programme of the internship which held at the Central Hall of Assam Legislative Assembly here today, Chief Minister Sonowal said, "Democratic leadership which holds paramount importance for the success of democracy is something our society always looks forward to the young students to imbibe and execute. I hope the inputs thus received by the students from the intership programme will ignite young minds to be leaders in their chosen fields".

It may be noted that the students' internship programme which was imparted to the students to study how Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as framed by the by the United Nations are reflected in the deliberations of the Assam Legislative Assembly.

In the context to the Sustainable Development Goals, Chief Minister Sonowal said that State government has drawn a broad road map to promote economy of the state in sync with its ecology for rational distribution of wealth among all sections of the people of the state to ensure peace and prosperity of the state. He also stated that Assam is full of natural and human resources and major part of the resources are still untapped. He, therefore, urged upon the students to venture into the journey of discovering Assam. He also maintained that discovering Assam in its totality will facilitate socio, economic, linguistic, cultural and demographic development of the state.

Since students' life is the most formative period of any individual, he appealed to the students to study rigorously to achieve success in life. Stating that there is no alternative to hard labour, he asked the students to bring laurels to the state by achieving academic brilliance.

Giving a snap shot of State government's initiatives to bring about paradigm shift in the state's socio-economic-educational landscape of the state, Chief Minister Sonowal said that in the last few years besides a series of programmes and policies by the Central and State governments, the Act East Policy transformed the state into a gateway to South East Asian countries. The 80-crore population of ASEAN countries has thrown open a new vista of trade and commerce in the state. He also said that to reap good harvest of the Act East Policy, State government with the help of the Centre is working in a focussed manner to improve connectivity to achieve transformation through transportation. He also said under UDAN International direct flight services between Guwahati and Dhaka has been taken off. Efforts

are also underway to start direct flight services from Guwahati to Hanoi and Bangkok very shortly.

Speaker Assam Legislative Assembly Hitendra Nath Goswami while speaking on the occasion, said that considering the enthusiastic response from the students the number of entrants this year over the last year has been increased to 30. He also said that acknowledging the spontaneous response of the students, a willing participant with high mental calibre will be sent to Indian Institute of Democratic Leadershipin Mumbai and Assam Legislative Assembly will sponsor the student.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Chandra Mohan Patowary speaking on the occasion thanked the Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly for organising the internship under Speaker's Initiative Programme. He also wished the students for their future endeavour.

Under the Students' Internship Programme 2019, the 30 students selected on merits were given specific topics and each student was asked to examine the proceedings of the Budget Session of 2018 of the Assembly and relate the specific topic with different SDGs. A number of resource persons were invited to interact and enlighten the interns on various aspects of SDGs. Speaker Hitendra Nath Goswami, leader of the opposition Debabrata Saikia and several MLAs interacted with interns during their internship. Senior journalist Samudra Gupta Kashyap was also present on the occasion.

SD/ July 31, 2019.