



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

PRESS RELEASE

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CM attends workshop on Public Financial Management

Usage of digital tool is must for ensuring transparency in governance: CM

Dispur, July 18: “The intended beneficiaries of all government schemes would only be served when there is more efficiency in government’s management of public funds to facilitate robust growth of the economy while ensuring the wellbeing of citizens. For that purpose, adoption of Public Financial Management System (PFMS) is must for judicious utilisation of government’s earnings and expenditures.”

Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal today said while speaking at the inaugural session of the workshop on Public Financial Management System (PFMS) organised by National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, North East Regional Centre at Assam Administrative Staff College. Delegates from other North Eastern States and various parts of the country have been taking part in the workshop.

Notably, PFMS is an online system being implemented by the Controller General of Accounts for fund management and online payments to implementing agencies as well as vendors and beneficiaries and its primary objective is to ensure efficient fund flow and tracking for the schemes of Government of India.

Saying that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had ensured direct transfer of financial benefits to the intended beneficiaries through Digital India scheme, Sonowal referred to the opening of bank accounts of 8 lakh people of tea community in the state for receiving their wages and providing 5 thousand rupees by the state government in those accounts through Chah Bagicha Dhan Purashkar Mela scheme. He also underlined Prime Minister Modi’s vision to make the government system completely transparent so that the beneficiaries could receive their dues from the government schemes.

Stating that with full implementation of PFMS, delays in the intermediaries would get reduced and funds would reach to the beneficiaries and vendors on time while removing middlemen from the system, the chief minister said that the development of a nation is dependent on the availability of financial resources and the efficient and effective financial administration.

“Government is not only about focusing on running the public welfare schemes, but is also about ensuring that the benefits reach the intended beneficiary while maximising the utilization of the funds available and not keeping the funds idle. In order to streamline the benefits from public spending and deploy its meagre resources in an effective manner use of digital tools is a must” he said.



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The chief minister said that in today's age of information and increased public awareness, it was necessary that the leaders should be conscious of functioning of different government wings while strictly monitoring the public spending being done by the public agencies at all levels. PFMS provides inputs for better management of resources and in turn better policy formulation. It aims for timely releases and monitoring of fund utilization till reaching the ultimate beneficiary, he opined.

Expressing hope that this workshop would come up with ways to fully harness the utility of PFMS for increasing the effectiveness of rural development schemes, Sonowal said that once all the implementing agencies are registered on PFMS and they start using it, it will be easier for the governments to monitor the fund flow and to ensure the real time fund transfers.

He also expressed satisfaction that Assam was taking a lead role in implementation of PFMS and state's efforts in implementation of PFMS in NSAP had been chosen as a model and recognised by Government of India.

Chief Controller of Accounts of Rural Development Ministry Ajay Shankar Singh gave the welcome address in the programme while Additional Secretary cum Financial Advisor of the Ministry Sanjeev Kumar, Principal Secretary of Panchayat and Rural Development Department J.B. Ekka also spoke. Media Adviser to the Chief Minister Hrishikesh Goswami and other top officials of different departments were also present.

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