

Assam, NE states have a greater role in success of Act East Policy: Mukhi

Emerging North East 2018 concludes in Guwahati

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, March 6: Assam Governor Jagdish Mukhi attended the concluding function of 'Emerging North East 2018' an exhibition cum conference organised by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) jointly with the ministries of DONER and tourism and skill development at North East Zone Cultural Centre at Shilpgram here on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Mukhi said Assam and other Northeastern states will have a greater role in the success of India's Act East Policy. "India is moving forward under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He has enunciated Act East Policy which entails increased people to people, trade and other relations with countries of India's east particularly ASEAN countries. Assam and Northeast are close to ASEAN na-



tions. We have land borders with Myanmar. Many of ASEAN capitals are within 2,000 kilometre flying distance from Guwahati which is comparable to flying distance of Guwahati to many Indian cities," Mukhi said.

Mukhi also said that taking inspiration from the Act East Policy the state government has set up a sepa-

rate act east policy affairs department and proposed to make Guwahati as India's gateway to ASEAN. Stating that Bangladesh and Bhutan have already set up their consulates in Guwahati, the Governor said that this development would help the city to open itself up towards more opportunities to herald an era of growth in the state.

The Governor said that before 2020 all the region of Northeast will be well connected with the railways which will lead to development of tourism. Talking to the participants of the conference the Governor also stressed to explore on shoe and rubber industry in the state.

Mukhi complemented the effort of ASSOCHAM for facilitating and creating an investment corridor to tap the business potential of the state. He hoped that the event would provide a new platform to local, regional, national investors to connect and collaborate and thus help in the socio-economic development of the people of the entire Northeast.

NERAMAC managing director Pankaj Kumar Prasad, advisor of ASSOCHAM Sidharth Gautam, assistant director of ASSOCHAM Chetan Vij and a host of other dignitaries were also present in the concluding function.

Guv attends Emerging North East 2018

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leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He has enunciated Act East



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countries of India's east particularly ASEAN countries. Assam and Northeast are close to ASEAN nations. We have land borders with Myanmar. Many of ASEAN capitals are within 2,000 kilometre flying distance from Guwahati, which is comparable to flying distance of Guwahati to many Indian cities." Therefore, Assam and other Northeastern states will have a greater role in the success of India's Act East Policy, Prof Mukhi professed.

The Governor also said that taking inspiration from the Prime Minister's Act East Policy the state government has set up a separate Act East Policy Affairs Department and proposed to make Guwahati as India's gateway to ASEAN. Stating that Bangladesh and Bhutan have already set up their consulates in Guwahati, the Governor said that this development would help the city to open itself up towards more opportunities to herald an era of growth in the state.

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Mizoram Gov applauds Emerging North East 2018 initiative



Guwahati, Mar 6: The second day of the ongoing Emerging North East 2018, was well received by the delegates and participants. H.E. Lt. Gen. Nirbhay Sharma, Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram graced the occasion. At the event H.E. Lt. Gen. Nirbhay Sharma, Hon'ble Governor of Mizoram said, "I congratulate ASSOCHAM for conducting this seminar. I am glad to see the participation of people at the grass-root level. Every state has its unique feature and North East is

immensely diverse. I encourage that such events should be held outside Assam as well. Food Processing should be limited to pickles. Earlier, India was not self sufficient, but not we have surplus production. Government alone is not the stakeholder, its various departments and the farmers also fall under the category of stakeholders. We all need to work collectively." He also added, "Many from outside the region are still clueless about many things of North East. We

should realise the strength of North East and it has that much of strength to lead the nation towards development. The entire Northeast is an agrarian economy but we are not self sufficient. We should take this as a challenge. Processed Food has a good scope globally. If we need to grow and develop in this sector, we need to do our share as well and not depend on entirely on the government." Shri K.B. Subramanian, Director, Ministry of Food Processing Industries,

Government of India deliberated on PM Kisan SAMPADA Yojna where he shared about the objectives and schemes of PMKSY. Allocation under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojna (PMKSY) increased from Rs. 715 crore in 2017-18 (RE) to Rs. 1400 crore for 2018-19 (BE). Establishment of specialized agro-processing financial institutions in food processing sector; Operation Greens for tomato, onions & potato to be launched with an allocation of Rs. 500 crore to promote FPOs, agro logistics, processing facilities and professional management; 100 per cent income tax exemption from profit of FPOs, having annual turnover up to Rs. 100 crores for post-harvest and value addition activities. Other delegates present at the event are Dr. Dip Kumar Saikia-Regional Director, NIPCCD; Smt. Jyoti Sahare-Consultant, MANAGE; Shri Deba Kumar Barman-Proprietor, J14; Dr. Subhas Bhattacharjee-Executive Director, NERAMAC Ltd.; Rtn. Samir Baruah-Director, Assam Power Generation Corporation; Dr. Miftahul Islam Barbaruah-Director, Vet Helpline India Pvt. Ltd. and Goutam Das-Assistant Professor, IIFPT (Guwahati Centre). NSCN (I-M) to kilouster, Th

Muivah has appealed to national workers and Naga people to observe a day of fasting on March 18 to show "our gratefulness to God who, in His mercy, had not punished us for our sins as we deserved." In a statement issued on Monday, Muivah called for thanking God for He was gracious, merciful, slow to anger, filled with unfailing love and cancelled the disaster "we" deserved.

"Let us return to the Lord through prayer and fasting so that the good Lord will in His mercy uproot and destroy all the bonds of wickedness and set free the yokes of oppression from our iniquities," he appealed.

According to him, in the days of Jonah the word of the Lord came to Nineveh, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown", and Nineveh believed and called for national fasting putting on sackcloth from the greatest to the least. Asserting that Nagaland was for Christ, Muivah called for repentance and to thank Him "for giving us another chance to return to Him" before it was too late. The word of God says "who knows, God may turn and relent and withdraw His burning anger so that we shall not perish", he added.



Governor of Assam Prof. Jagdish Mukhi during the closing day of the ongoing Emerging North East Expo 2018 at Shilpgram in the city on Tuesday. UB photos

Function

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