

**Assam Governor inaugurates a discussion on Boarder issues**

**Discussion to help in academic and pragmatic perspective on inter-state and inter-national border issues: Governor**

**NE is getting special attention under present government**

**Guwahati, July 7:** Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria inaugurated a programme titled “Seema Ke Vishay Pe Charcha (An interactive discussion on Boarder issues) at Jyoti Chitraban Auditorium here today.

It may be noted that National Institute of Border Studies (NIBS), under the aegis of Seemanta Chetana Mancha Purvottar organized the programme with a view to nurture a collaborative approach among educational institutions to generate more awareness on boundary issues and how development can be expedited in the areas bordering inter-state and international boundaries.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Kataria thanking the organizer for holding the programme said that North Eastern region of the country needs special attention. He said that the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been paying special focus on the development of the region. North East which has long been considered as the frontier region, is now getting special attention. Considering the immense potential of the region, the Prime Minister has termed it as Astalakshmi and the New Engine of India’s growth. Giving a different perspective of the programme, the Governor said that the programme is of immense importance for those whose either field of study or research is related to India’s National and International borders.

Giving a snapshot of different development initiatives for North East, the Governor said that in the last few years, the number of airports in the region jumped from nine to 16, and the number of flights increased from about 900 before 2014 to around 1900. After 2014, as a result of special treatment meted out to North East, all the states have made their way into India’s railway map for the first time and efforts are being made to expand the waterways also. The length of national highways, since 2014, has increased by 50 percent in the region. Moreover, under him long pending border and boundary disputes are being solved rather amicably.

Thanking National Institute of Border Studies for organizing the academic discussion on border, the Governor expressed hope that the deliberations on the topic will bring to light the whole dynamics of boundary issue and the steps government is taking to meet them harmoniously. The Governor said that the discussion will also create more academic awareness and more pragmatic resolutions of the inter-state boundary and inter-national border issues. He

also hoped that the discussion will help the government to formulate policies beneficial to the faster development of border areas and the people living along the borders.

The welcome speech of the programme which was given by former Chairman, Assam State Level Police Recruitment Board Pradeep Kumar also attended among others by Chairman, Assam Higher Secondary Education Council, Assam Dr Rukma Gohain, head, Invest India, North East Desk Dr. Geetima Das Krishna, Principal, KK Handique Govt Sanskrit College, Guwahati Dr Binita Bhagwati, faculty members from different universities, colleges and higher secondary schools.

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