Speech of the inaugural Speech for Hon'ble Governor of Assam (on the Occasion of inauguration of National Science Seminar-2019)

Namaskar,

Director General, National Council of Science Museums Shri A.D. Choudhury ji, Director, North-East Zone, National Council of Science Museums Shri Subhashis Das ji,

Ladies and Gentleman and most importantly my dear students,

It gives me great pleasure to address you on the occasion of inauguration of National Science Seminar-2019 for school students. The topic of the seminar is very relevant considering the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the discovery of Periodic Table of Chemical Elements. I am also happy to know that this national level students' science seminar is being organized for the first time in the North-East Region since its beginning in 1982, and Regional Science Centre, Guwahati is hosting the seminar today where winners of different States and Union Territories of India will participate to represent their respective states and compete for the national award.

Regional Science Centre, Guwahati is a constituent unit of National Council of Science Museums, functioning under Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India and plays a key role for science popularization in realizing the national dream of achieving universal science education for all through various non-formal modes. Since its inception in 1994, this science centre has been acting as an agent of change in propagation of Science & Technology in the entire North-Eastern Region. It is heartening to learn that the Regional Science Centre, Guwahati engages over 5.50 lakh visitors annually in its galleries and different scientific programmes throughout the year. The Science Seminar is the most important event among all these programmes.

As we all know, science & technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> century has made spectacular advancements in diverse fields, while a science centre is accepted throughout the world as one of the effective media for disseminating science and showcasing the developments in Science and technology among the masses with the basic objective of improving the quality of life. Moreover, adequate knowledge and proper understanding of the basic principles of science not only help us understand the nature but also change our outlook. Science helps us generate rational and logical thinking in our day to day activities which again let us lead a better life. There is an ever increasing need to enhance public understanding of science & technology especially in this region of our country.

My dear students, we know that India is a developing country, and Science undoubtedly plays a vital role in the development of our country. You are the future of our nation and your contribution is very important to us. Present world education scenario needs the holistic development of the children. This type of science seminar is one of the best media for overall development of students. It is a great platform for expression and presentation of your scientific ideas and views, which I hope you are going to do in today's seminar. I wish you all the success.

With this conviction, I declare the National Science Seminar-2019 open.

Thank you all,

Jai Hind