

## Govt planning pharma hub in State

**STAFF REPORTER**

GUWAHATI, May 30 – Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi today claimed that good governance enunciated by the present Government has changed the climate in the State. He assured members of a delegation of the Indian Pharma Industry Association that the Government would provide security, including all logistic support, and asked them to invest in Assam.

Highlighting the conducive industrial climate prevailing in the State, Gogoi said the South East Asian countries are looking at Assam eagerly and any investment in the State would augur well in catering to a huge market in the region, stated an official press release here.

The Chief Minister met Indian Pharma Industry Association leaders at a meeting at the NEDFi House here to give impetus to the 'Make in Assam' initiative.

The Chief Minister had a detailed discussion with the Pharma Industry Association delegation on ways and means to increase the State's potential in setting up a pharma hub and boost employment

opportunities in the State.

The Chief Minister informed the delegates about the measures taken by the State Government to boost the industrial sector, along with emphasis on creating strong business fundamentals in the State. The corporate honchos assured Gogoi of their cooperation and spoke of the prevailing "positive atmosphere" in the State on all fronts.

Gogoi claimed, "Gone are the days when the industrialists were reluctant to come to Assam. Good governance enunciated by the present Government has changed the climate in the State."

He reiterated that health care is the topmost priority of his Government and any investment in that direction would go well in strengthening the State Government's motto of 'welfare to everybody'. He also said that his Government would allot a suitable land to set up the pharma hub in Guwahati.

Gogoi also emphasised on a regular industry-educational institution interaction and advocated for the right type of curriculum, right type of education and right type of training for creating trained

manpower in the State.

Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers Ananth Kumar, while lauding the Chief Minister for his vision, said that if his action plan is implemented, it would not be far for Guwahati to turn into the first pharma hub of the region.

He also assured that he would take up the matter with the Prime Minister for the restoration of the NEEIPP and continue it for a longer period. He also suggested incorporating lifestyle as one of the subjects in the curriculum to help students imbibe good habits in them.

Moreover, Additional Chief Secretary for Industries and Commerce RT Jindal gave a presentation, highlighting the unique propositions of the State as a destination for investment.

Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs and Sports Sarbananda Sonowal, MP Bijoya Chakraborty, besides delegates from the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association, India Pharmaceutical Association, CII and FINER, were present at the meeting.

Gogoi