

The Sentinel

Greatest challenge before the government is to provide jobs to 23 lakh youths

Silchar: It was a speech from the podium by Parimal Suklabaidya, Minister of PWD, Excise and Fishery, on the 70th Independence Day of the country that gave priority to peace and development. Addressing the impressive gathering at the DSA ground here, he said, “My government is working to provide good governance to reach the benefits of development to all”. The policy adopted is to have zero tolerance towards corruption and maintain accountability and responsibility. He described Assam as an unique example of ‘unity in diversity’.

Further, as Parimal Suklabaidya said, to protect the identity, culture and language of each and every group and community ‘remains the core goal of Sarbananda Government’. While ensuring equal development of both Barak and Brahmaputra valleys, the emphasis is on providing modern education and better health facilities. Referring to the ongoing NRC update process, he pointed out all out care would be taken to see that no name of any doubtful citizen finds place in it. He also made it clear that his government would not follow the policy of appeasement towards any community.

The Minister admitted long delay in the implementation of Assam Accord and his government has given priority to it in the overall interest of people of the state. Coming back to the issue of development, he said, “There can be no place for violence and any group trying to foment it will be dealt with seriously.” Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal against the Kokrajhar mayhem declared unambiguously about his determination to eliminate the evil forces, now being decried by the people of the state. The greatest challenge before the government is to provide jobs to 23 lakh youths.

Parimal Suklabaidya asserted during the process of employment, transparency would be maintained. For appointment in III and IV grade jobs, the system of interview has been removed. Employment opportunities have to be created. It is with this objective that Guwahati will be developed as an international business hub. Besides, through skill development schemes, economic development will be hastened. Along with that empowerment of women, introduction of special schemes and projects, preservation and harvesting of vast natural resources would be taken up in a concrete manner to create more job opportunities.

Assam, the Minister said, would be developed as a brand name in tourism by focusing on its heritage sites like Kamakhya Temple, Majuli, Kaziranga Wildlife Sanctuary, Manas Wildlife Sanctuary among others. Human resource development is another important parameter for infrastructure improvement. Emphasis will be laid on the development of handicraft and handloom sectors. He also pointed out “My government will not make any distinction between the development of urban and rural areas”.

He did not miss to say that flood is an annual scourge which causes immense havoc in the state. With the help of modern mechanism, his government would try to contain it to provide relief to the victims of natural calamity. One of the areas for rapid development is reliable communication network and particular attention on it will be given in both the valleys. The much criticized stretch of NH 6 in particular from the Tripura border point of Churaibari will be, as Parimal Suklabaidya revealed, improved with the help of jute geo technology. This would make the National Highway all weather proof, he was confident.

With particular reference to Barak Valley, he outlined the commitment of his government to set up a dental college, Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, besides assisting Cachar Cancer Hospital and Silchar Medical College in a time bound manner. Parimal Suklabaidya said, “To win elections is not our aim, but the people’s heart and mind”. He quoted late President of India APJ Abdul Kalam who said, “Let us all work together to make our country great.” He summed up ‘let our dream to make Assam great become a reality’.