



ASSAM STATE LEVEL ROUND TABLE ON

THEME:

ASSAM'S PURSUIT FOR UN SDG GOALS|

**ADDRESSING GENDER EQUALITY IN ASSAM AND IMPROVING GENDER EQUALITY SCORE (GOAL 5)|
ENABLING DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH (GOAL 8) &
FRAMING A PROGRESSIVE ASSAM'S NEW SKILL POLICY**

September 26, 2019 | Thursday | Hotel Taj Vivanta, Khanapara, Guwahati | 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM

ABOUT

The Guwahati Round Table (TGR) 2019 as a multi-stakeholder dialogue forum seeks to discuss and deliberate key issues and areas that have emerged as critical to sustain Assam's overall development and growth in present times.

Achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls is a priority in Assam. The State government from time to time has embarked upon key policies and program frameworks to address issues in gender equality across the State. Nevertheless, there exist key challenges that require continuous attention of the State government, concerned departments and agencies, civil society, academic and skilling institutions, legal bodies and agencies to address and deal with various issues. There are specific discriminatory practices against women and girls including violence; trafficking and exploitation; Recognising and value unpaid care and domestic work; provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies; women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life; Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights; giving women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with laws; Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women; and having sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels. A highlight of these challenges is Assam

scoring low score in UN SDG Goal 5 (Gender Equality scoring 36 / 100) in 2018 SDG All India Index Score by the NITI Ayog and UNDP. Apart from existing initiative and efforts, what are key further measures or steps required to address the above in the Assam to lead forefront of a 'Gender Equal' State in the country?

The State of Assam is also committed to promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. It has taken numerous actions time to time towards this including having Skill Employment and Entrepreneurship Department and Assam Skill Development Mission. Nevertheless, State faces the challenge in having and promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services; By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value; Substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training; By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products; Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all; and develop and operationalize a mid and long drawn strategy for youth employment and implement policies and programmes. In this context, the latest efforts of the State through the Skill Employment and Entrepreneurship Department and Assam Skill Development Mission (ASDM) is laudable in proposed formulating and implementing a new Assam's Skills Policy with provisions of assessment of the existing skill ecosystem of the State, learning from good practices, mapping and engaging stakeholders; State implementation plan for promotion of entrepreneurship, apprenticeship, and setting up relevant infrastructure (incubation centers, entrepreneurship cells, counseling and migration centers etc.). The effort is towards a Project Management Structure (PMU) for Implementation of Skill Policy, Mobilization Strategy, Apprenticeship Policy, Employment Generation Policy, Entrepreneurship Policy, Placement and Post Placement Strategy, Convergence with the department and Liaison with Donor Agencies/PSU's/Private companies.

OBJECTIVE OF THE ROUND TABLE

- Discuss and deliberate on key areas of sustainable development, good governance, service access and delivery challenges in Assam with focus on key UN SDG 2030 Goals and priorities;
- Express and share thoughts, inputs, ideas, suggestions and experiences pertaining to the challenges;
- Emerge with key problem solving ideas, innovations, practices and recommendations to address these challenges in a multi-stakeholder framework;
- Learning and sharing of good practices from other high scoring States from mainland India.



2019 DELIBERATIONS

10:30 AM – 1:00 PM

SESSION 1:

ADDRESSING GENDER EQUALITY IN ASSAM AND IMPROVING GENDER EQUALITY SCORE (GOAL 5)

- ✚ End all forms of social and economic discrimination against women and girls
- ✚ Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies
- ✚ **Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women**
- ✚ Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life
- ✚ Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights
- ✚ Women access to government schemes and benefits
- ✚ Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws
- ✚ Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.

2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

SESSION 2:

ENABLING DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH (GOAL 8) IN ASSAM & FRAMING A PROGRESSIVE ASSAM'S NEW SKILL POLICY

- ✚ UN SDG Goal 8 and Need for a Assam Skill Policy
- ✚ Promotion of development-oriented policy that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises,
- ✚ Revisiting Traditional skills, and its relevance and strengthening livelihood, entrepreneurship and employability
- ✚ Diversity and Inclusion in Skills Development and Promotion
- ✚ From Informal to Formalisation of Skills
- ✚ Need for an Assam Academy of Skills and Knowledge (like Telangana Academy of Skills and Knowledge)
- ✚ Meeting the demand for digitally skilled talent
- ✚ **Role of IT / ICT in a Skill Framework Digital work force for a digital economy**
- ✚ Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all
- ✚ By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value
- ✚ By 2030, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training
- ✚ Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment
- ✚ By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products
- ✚ Least Developed Countries
- ✚ Develop and operationalize a mid and long term strategy for youth employment and implement the same with output and outcomes.

Lunch: 1:00 PM -2:00 PM | Tea Break: 11:30 AM, 3:30 PM

Round Table Format: Roundtable presentations by selected and invited presenters for 45 minutes – 1 hour, followed by 30-45 minutes of discussion and feedback.

WHO JOINS IN?

TGR 2019 to have invitees including Peoples Representatives, Public and Government representatives, Experts from Private, Civil Society, Media and Academia as deliberation partners and stakeholders.

ORGANISERS

The Guwahati Round Table 2019 is organized by Digital Empowerment Foundation, North East Development Foundation and Assam Civil Society Network for SDGs (ACT4SDGs). It is supported by National Foundation for India (NFI), IBSD, and UNDP and ASMP.

ORGANISED BY



Assam Civil Society Network For
Sustainable Development Goals

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जैव संसाधन और स्थायी विकास संस्थान
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The Guwahati Round Table (TGR)

C/O – North East Development Foundation

House 53, JD Complex, Sonapur Post Office building, Kamrup Metro, Assam

Plot 159, Farm Gate, Opposite Hotel Taj Vivanta, Sixmile, Khanapara, Guwahati - 781022

Telefax: 0361-2367522 | Mobile: 7303452425, 8811088410, 9818292524

Email: nedfindia@gmail.com, Web: <http://nedfindia.org/>, <http://defindia.org/>

Digital Empowerment Foundation,

House 44, Kalu Sarai, New Delhi – 110016 | Telefax: 011-26532786 / 87