

## <u>Assam is setting up a tea Park at Kamrup</u> <u>district's Chayygaon, Chandra Mohan Patowary</u>

## **Synopsis**

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Industries and Commerce minister <u>Chandra Mohan Patowary</u> said <u>Assam</u> is setting up a <u>tea Park</u> at Chayygaon in Kamrup District which will have rail and port connectivity, cargo and warehouse amenities, processing facilities like tea grinding, blending, packaging and other utility services under one roof.

Coinciding with <u>Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav</u> of 75 years of Indian Independence, Tea Board of India; Directorate General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India & Industries, State Industries, Commerce and Public Enterprise Department has organized a two-day 'Vanijya Utsav & Mega Export Conclave' from September 21-22 in Guwahati.

Taking note of tea garden companies using garden lands for plantation of segun and agar or selling off the tea estates, the Minister stated that tea garden owners cannot sell off their estates as the leased land still belongs to Assam Government and instead asked them to focus on innovation and branding of Assam Tea.

Citing the example of Dubai Tea Park which sells most of the tea from Assam, the Minister said that Assam Government is setting up a Tea Park at Chayygaon in Kamrup District which will have rail and port connectivity, cargo and warehouse amenities, processing facilities like tea grinding, blending, packaging and other utility services under one roof.

Inaugurating the 'Export Conclave' showcasing many local products, the Minister

asked the Industry Department officials to include the weavers in the upcoming India International Trade Fair (IITF), Pragati Maidan and to handhold them in Flipkart with which the Department has already signed a MoU to promote the state's local arts, crafts and handloom sectors.

Kamakhya Prasad Tasa, Member of Rajya Sabha mentioned that tea, the official state drink of Assam, is going to complete 200 years of its existence in 2023. 'It is high time that tea industry needs multi-dimensional approach for holistic development in terms of value addition, tea tourism and entrepreneurship', added the MP.

Patowary interacted with a delegation from Haryana Plywood Manufacturers' Association (HPMA) in Guwahati on Monday evening. The Minister stated that, 'North East Region accounts for 66% of India's bamboo. Assam Government has set up a State Bamboo Development Mission to increase the area under bamboo cultivation and marketing.'

A MoU was signed and exchanged by Abhijit Barooah, Chairman, Bamboo Technology Park (BTP) and Ram Niwas Garg, Chairman, Haryana Plywood Manufacturers' Association (HPMA). The MoU aims to develop a partnership between the parties to facilitate the setting up of bamboo based processing units by HPMA members in the facilities of BTP in the state of Assam.