

Hope dawns in the East



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Over one billion individuals globally lack access to healthcare services. Bridging this gap through appropriate healthcare services will result in healthier populations and a robust economy. Fulfilling this pressing need requires a multi-dimensional effort encompassing educating various sections of society, continuous advocacy, concerted actions and societal collaboration. An initiative to pursue this multi-dimensional objective, named as Affordable [Health](#) Mission, was [launched](#) on 17 August at NEDFi auditorium in the city by Assam [Governor](#) Banwarilal Purohit. The event was graced by dignitaries from the fields of politics, administration, culture, media and medicines.

Affordable quality healthcare is the pillar of a healthy economy and is central to preventing epidemics, improving women's and children's health, and managing the rising burden of non-communicable diseases such as [heart](#) and neurological conditions. Lack of affordable quality healthcare causes [over](#) 60 million people to slide into poverty every year. In [India](#) alone, due to catastrophic healthcare expenditure which neutralizes the gains of rising income and various government initiatives aimed to reduce poverty.

Speaking on the occasion, [Governor](#) Purohit commented that addressing this multi-dimensional challenge needs a solution combining humane intent, progressive policies and equitable practices. Only when the body is free from diseases an individual can contribute to the socio-economic growth of the nation and thus the nation can prosper. The [Governor](#) lauded Dr Nomal Chandra Borah, founder of AHM for emerging as the ray of hope for society in its pursuit of health for all. A biography of Dr Borah, who leads [GNRC](#) Hospitals as the CMD, titled 'Hope Dawns in the East' was also [launched](#) on the occasion by [Governor](#) Purohit and Anil Sinha, former regional head of International Finance Corporation.

The biography, co-authored by Mumbai-based communication professionals Arnab Mukherjee and Sushmita Sarkar, captures Dr Borah's life journey since birth in the family of a marginal [farmer](#) in Dubia (Upper Assam) to become a social entrepreneur driven to provide masses access to quality affordable healthcare.

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