

Youth for Social Development conclave held



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A two-day 'State Level Conclave with Student Organizations on 'Youth and [Social Development](#)' began from November 12 in Guwahati.

Organized by the Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (ASCPCR) in partnership with [UNICEF](#) Assam, the event efforted to familiarize [student](#) organizations with critical aspects of [development](#) priorities of the [state](#) like health, hygiene, nutrition, education and child protection in alignment with child [rights](#) and conclude with a Call to Action for them. The aim is to sensitize the youth of Assam and infuse in them essence of responsibility of being agents of change by creating awareness in the society on issues related to holistic social [development](#) in Assam.

[India](#) is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the [Rights](#) of Children (UNCRC) which sets out the [rights](#) that must be realized for children to attain their full potential. In order to achieve the commitment to the principles of children's [rights as](#) articulated in the CRC, an engagement is required with critical members of society. In [India](#), with [over](#) half the population, or 150 crore, comprising of youth, it is important that they are sensitized and encouraged to play active role [as](#) responsible citizens.

Speaking during the conclave ASCPCR Chairperson, Runumi Gogoi said "Child Rights encompasses aspects of access to education, health care and nutrition and plays a critical role in ensuring the holistic development of a child. This orientation is critical [as](#) the young are the future [leaders](#) and can play a significant role [as](#) change-agents in the society".

The conclave will address the [student](#) organizations on several negative social norms existing in the society and the subtle role they can play in perpetuating harmful practices by communities hindering societal progress.

Highlighting the importance of the conclave [UNICEF](#) Assam, Chief Tusher Rane said that since [UNICEF](#) is committed to strengthening child [rights](#) in the [state](#) he is hopeful that the event will be the [start](#) of a long term and productive engagement with youth on their role in taking forward some of the critical issues with regard to development of the [state](#).

Assam [Governor](#), Banwari Lal Purohit will address the [student](#) organizations and university [student](#) representatives in the pre-valedictory sessions on November 13. Sadin Editor, Anuradha Sarma Pujari shall deliver the keynote address while Gauhati University, Vice Chancellor Mridul [Hazarika](#) will deliver the inaugural speech. The conclave will culminate with a Pledge Ceremony wherein all the dignitaries, representatives from [student](#) organizations and universities across Assam will vow to do their bit towards ensuring progressive [development](#) in the [state](#) by signing the pledge card. The pledge is envisaged to be a symbol of their determination towards their prospective action on issues related to child [rights](#). The Pledge Ceremony will be followed by a pre-valedictory session graced by the [Principal](#) Secretary to Government of Assam, [Social](#) Welfare Department, Ravi Capoor and Commissioner, Youth & Cultural Affairs & [Urban Development](#), Monalisa Goswami.

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