

Assam's wheel of fortune is turning



Comments 2



Rituparna Goswami Pande 4 September 2007 17574 views

The wheel of fortune in Assam seems to be taking a turn towards better days. After lunching of projects by the government and the world bank's initiative towards development schemes now other sources are eyeing Assam and testing its waters for further development projects. The recent visit by Tata Consultancy Services CEO and MD S Ramadorai raised hopes of major investments in the IT sector in the state. He inspected two major sites for the proposed setting up of IT hubs—one location near IIT Guwahati measuring 100 acres and the other close to the Software Technology Park of India of about 140 acres.

Ramdorai stressed the need for an ideal location for the proposed IT park that can ensure the best communication facilities for every customer and also urged the need of a proper educational institution to produce quality pupils. He also stated that he would do his best for improving the future scenario of Assam particularly the IT sector.

Meanwhile, the otherwise isolated northeast will no longer remain cut off from the rest of the world as it may soon get extensive road linkages with India's neighbouring countries like Bhutan and Sri Lanka that would recommend new pilot sub regional and regional projects to the SAARC Member states.

The new projects were recommended during the first meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) transport ministers held in Delhi recently. Such a move will not only benefit the country but it would give a boost to the trade links of particularly the northeastern states by linking of the roads, rails aviation and water corridors of these SAARC capitals.

Further, better days are forecasted for Assam particularly in Assam's tea sector when the Geographical Indication (GI) mark is secured shortly as stated by Union minister of State for Commerce Jairam Ramesh. With Pakistan allowing rail movement for importing Assam Tea for the first time the swift movements of consignments from Assam to Pakistan will be facilitated smoothly. Usually the transit to Pakistan had to take a long route which amounted to wastage of time and money but with this irritant removed tea export to Pakistan have a better brighter future.

If Assam gets a reprieve from the roars of guns progress beckons Assam with open arms.

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BY RITUPARNA GOSWAMI PANDE

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