

FASS promotes Assam Tourism at House of Lords



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Rini Kakati 30 June 2011 7898 views

Lord Adam Patel of Blackburn, patron of FASS (Friends of Assam and Seven Sisters) along with Rini Kakati. NRI Co-ordinator for UK organised "Focus on Assam" seminar at House of Lords, Palace of Westminster on 13 June, 2011. It was a month long preparation by Rajen Barua, Chairman, FASS at Houston and Ankur Bora, FASS co-ordinator from Texas. FASS newsletter MITRO and a video presentation were also made for the occasion.

For the first time since independence, the House of Lords today focused on the Assam Tourism, promising all help to put this beautiful state firmly in the world tourism map. The Lords and MPs came out of the way to help Assam event. Shri Tarun Gogoi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam send a good will message both to House of Lords and Nehru Centre to hold these prestigious event.

The high powered seminar was chaired by well- known journalist - Ashish Roy, Times of India, attended by Lord Adam Patel of Blackburn, Lord King of West Bromwich, Lord Shahid Malik, Lord Sheikh, Lord Paul Yaw Boateng, the first black cabinet minister in the United Kingdom, Keith Vaz MP for Labour, chairman of the home affairs select committee and Mr J K Sarma, First Secretary, Indian High Commission, while senior Journalist Mrinal Talukdar represented Assam. In his welcome speech, Lord Adam Patel of Blackburn - expressed his wonderful experience when he visited Guwahati by the invitation of Shri Tarun Gogoi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam for CII conference in 11 January, 2008.

Nesting in the lap of nature, the eight North - Eastern states - Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim and Tripura - have a wealth of cultural diversity, wildlife, flora and fauna.

Lord Paul Boateng spoke highly about Assam Tea and its resources and promised to organise "Visit Assam" in future.

Keith Vaz, MP praised Lord Adam Patel to organise ASSAM at House of Lords recognising him as adopted son of Assam. Any assistance from his side to promote Assam at House of Lords will be on cards.

The coffee table book ASSAM dominated the day event. Lord Sheikh has announced that the book will surely be kept at House of Lords Library.

Ashish Roy express his views to organise Govt. of Assam to hold an event specially for Assam Tourism at World Travel Mart in London.

The seminar discussed how Assam can be promoted in the west. As Mr J K Saharma and Mr Mrinal Talukdar tried to ally the apprehension and misconception about Assam in the western world.

The highlight of the evening was jhumur dance from Assam Tea garden by Seetarani Hazarika, Jahnabi Goswami and Bonnya Duarah.

Rini Kakati

London, UK

BY RINI KAKATI

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