

**SPEECH OF THE HON'BLE GOVERNOR FOR MUKTI- A
PROGRAMME TO CREATE AWARENESS AGAINST DRUGS
TO BE HELD ON 28.12.2019**

Namaskar,

Respected President, Secretary, other office bearers, honourable guests and dignitaries and dear media friends. Good Morning everybody.

I am really happy to be with you here this morning. I at the same time thank Rotaract Club of Guwahati Luit for organizing this programme to generate awareness against drug abuse.

The menace of drug abuse is one of the most challenging issues we face today. It has wide-ranging impacts on the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities, as well as on the security and sustainable development of nations.

Therefore, preventing and addressing drug abuse challenges in all their complexity is essential to delivering on a fundamental global pledge, enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals: to leave no one behind.

State priorities may differ, but Assam endorses a common goal to protect the collective security and well-being of our

people, while striving for the progress and dignity of all. I welcome the initiative taken by Rotaract Club of Guwahati Luit to generate awareness among our youth against the abuse of drugs. I hope at the end of the deliberations, the programme can set an agenda for using our abundant youth resources to create a deterrent against the use of drugs.

We live in a rapidly evolving world. The scale of change that we are likely to see in a decade or so will be unprecedented in human history. The world of technology, of start-ups, of innovations, of new ideas, of digital assistants, of clean energy would reorient our daily lives in an unbelievable manner. What is of deeper importance is that perhaps for the first time in history, the youth is directly involved in bringing about sweeping changes and on such a massive scale.

Ladies and Gentlemen the reason I am harping on youth power just to drive this point home that the menace of drug abuse have spread its tentacles all around and are taking our youth within their grip. The choice is ours, whether we would allow our youth to be destroyed by the abuse of drugs and its manifestations or use our youth forces to create a shield against abuse of drugs and their illicit trafficking.

Drugs, as we all know, are an illegal matter which some people drink, smoke, inject or eat for the mental as well as physical effects that it leaves. There are several students who consume drugs out of fun or for various other reasons. People who deal in the selling of drugs create a network and mainly target students in order to make them addicted to drugs. Initially, the drugs are sold to the students for free and gradually when they get addicted to it, they start buying and consuming it. In fact, the students also eventually become a part of their network and start dealing in it.

Sadly, the students fail to realize that the consumption of drugs has a severe impact on their physical and mental health, such as they start experiencing mental disorder, their intelligence level decreases, experience deadly diseases and untimely death. When one completely succumbs to the temptation of drugs, it gets very difficult for him/her to recover from its impact except in the centers for drug rehabilitation where they gain a new life, but which involves a high cost. In fact, there are many cases too where even rehabilitation centers fail because of the worst condition of the patients.

I, therefore, request all the students to refrain themselves completely from the consumption of drugs before it destroys their health, future and takes away their lives. Drugs can even

destroy a complete generation. So think wise and act smart. Shape your future which seems bright and full of achievements.

It is really heartening that Rotaract Club of Guwahati Luit has taken steps for organising Mukti campaign to encourage the formation of a society which will be averse to drug abuse. I feel extremely happy to see how the members of this organisation are working to make every day count and reach out to the masses for spreading awareness about the drug addiction or drug abuse. I am told that the response so far has been really good and we have been able to transform the life of the people for good, who earlier have been living under the influence of drugs.

Let the youth realize that Life is a precious gift, and it should not be wasted on drugs. Drugs would change them to someone that they never want to be. Let the young generation be guided to pursue creative paths rather than those self-destructing means. I at the same time urge upon other social organisations to take up the responsibility to generate awareness and work against drugs and its abuse.

Thank you,

Jai Hind