**Janasanyog, Assam Press Release – 12, Industries & Commerce**

**Microsoft team interacts with Industries & Commerce Department, visits Assam Startup – the Nest**

**Dispur, February 3:** A Microsoft team led by Lathika S. Pai, Country Head, Micosoft for Startups, Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) and Jeeva Reddy, Director, Global Entrepreneurship Network, (GEN) Women India, approached the Industries and Commerce Department and interacted with Dr. KK Dwivedi, Commissioner and Secretary and Manjula Saikia, Secretary, at Janata Bhawan today. During the course of discussion, it was decided that Microsoft would actively collaborate with Government of Assam to support the startup ecosystem in the State.

Microsoft also submitted a proposal that it would facilitate its knowhow on advanced technological system, cloud computing and artificial intelligence to the startup incubates for national and international exposure. Microsoft would also conduct reach-out programmes to encourage the entrepreneur community of the State. Microsoft, in association with Government of Assam, would soon organize a Startup Summit among all the stakeholders in Guwahati, on April.

The Microsoft team also visited the state-owned marquee incubation centre – ‘the Nest’ – and was highly impressed by the infrastructure set up at Ambari. They also interacted with the Cohort 2.0 incubates who are undergoing mentoring at the incubation centre.

Dr. KK Dwivedi assured that the State Government would provide all out support to make the endeavour of Microsoft fruitful. Dr. Dwivedi envisaged that this venture would highly benefit in creating employment and entrepreneurship among the youths of Assam.

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