

Invite the once-General and set the ball of development rolling!

ITANAGAR, Mar 18: Yes, it looks too true to be true! But visit the Nyokum Festival Ground here and you would start printing invitation cards, with just one name- Gen (Rtd) J J Singh!

The Nyokum Lapang Ground here, which hosts the most important festival of the Nyishis, the Nyokum, has witnessed several VVIPs visiting it on invitations during the festival every year. Despite several promises for its upliftment nothing much has evolved except for the boundary wall promised by MP Kiren Rijju.

This time, however, it just took an invitation from the organizers of the festival to set the ball of complete facelift rolling.

The organizers would have hardly imagined that their invitation to Gen

(Retd) J J Singh, Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, to attend the festival would turn into a bonus beyond expectations.

On the very same day, the Governor announced 'war against plastic' and promised that the Nyokum Lapang Ground here would be converted into a full-fledged children's park.

The General of the Indian Army might have retired but he still commands immense respect, which was evident. Within ten days of his announcement the Army authorities based at Tezpur after getting instructions from the Governor mobilized all its resources and sent a team of army personnel of 105 Engineering Regiment to operate on the Nyokum Ground and give it a com-

plete facelift. The Army provided 12 heavy machines such as dozers, excavators, trucks etc and work on the Nyokum Lapang ground started on war footing.

The Governor today visited the ground and expressed satisfaction on the progress. He also announced that within a short time he will arrange for a toy train for the kids and a football ground besides play equipments. Better half of the Governor, Anupama Singh, also accompanied him and expressed that such projects should be initiated at other locations also.

The Nyokum festival committee and local MLA Kipa Babu who were present during his inspection expressed their gratitude to the Governor for such a gift.