School children visit Raj Bhavan

ITANAGAR, Feb 22: Adding to the festivity of the Festival of Arunachal, the Arunachal Pradesh Raj Bhavan was open to the public for first time. Conceived by Governor Gen JJ Singh, school children from different schools of the Capital Complex had the opportunity to tour of the Raj Bhavan compound for the first time. Excited and elated, the students along with teachers visited different parts of the Bhavan. The orchid center, started by the first couple was the main attraction.

To make their visit more interesting, participating games like air rifle shooting, flower name writing and basket ball were organized by Raj Bhavan officials.

The visit was organized in the line of Mughal Garden of Rashtrapati Bhavan, Delhi. At present, ninety odd beds of roses, antirrhinum, dianthus, impatient, marigold, poppy, pansy, petunia, phlox, salvia, gerbera, niasurtium, zinnia and begonia along with dahlia and gladiolus adore the compound, while thirty-six exotic and indigenous orchids are there in the Orchid Center. Vegetable garden, bee-keeping, fruit garden and nine holes golf course are other must see places.

It may be mentioned here that Governor, Gen JJ Singh has decided to open the Raj Bhavan for public viewing every Sunday from 3 to 5 pm with little restriction to the numbers of visitors. (See Page 3)

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(From P-1) The public, especially the schoolchildren will be able to have full tour of the compound, which is embedded with flowers, greens and clean lawns.

Under the initiative of the First Lady Anupama Singh, two orchid houses has been set up, which has five varieties of exotic orchids and thirty-one of indigenous ones. Bee keeping and poultry along with vegetable farms are worth a memorable visit.

Raj Bhavan, the official residence of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh is located on a hillock close to a historical monument known as “Ita-Fort” (Eastern Gate). The area of the compound is approximately 27 acres consisting of lawn and garden as well as kitchen garden and fruit trees. The foundation of this Bhawan was laid by Late K.A.A. Raja the then Lt. Governor of the Union Territory of Arunachal Pradesh on 17th April, 1977. Right from Bhisma Narain Singh, the first Governor of Arunachal Pradesh to present, the Bhavan has hosted seventeen governors.

The house consists of main 2-storied building, Secretariat building and Darbar Hall. The main building comprises of Governor’s suite with attached dining and study, three guest rooms namely “Tipra”, “Lobi” and “Siang” on 1st floor and two guest rooms namely “Kameng” and “Subansiri” on the ground floor. Apart from these there are three annexed rooms ”Tawang”, ”Dirang” and “Changlang” for the guests. Office room of Governor, ADC’s room and room of PS are on the ground floor. There is one library room and meeting halls namely Gandhi Hall, Siddharth Hall on the ground floor and Gayatri Hall on the 1st floor.

The Raj Bhawan has a Billiard room, a lawn tennis court, a badminton court, also a nine-hole golf course which has been developed in eight months time under active guidance and initiative of the Governor. There is also a Helipad attached to the Raj Bhawan, PRO to CM.