ITANAGAR, Nov 5: Arunachal Pradesh Governor Gen JJ Singh exhorted the villagers to venture into entrepreneurship through village and cottage industries, at Poma village, near Itanagar today. He said this while on a visit to the Poma Bamboo Processing Centre (BPC), a pilot project which has been set up under his initiatives.

It is set up to show the rural communities a path towards financial empowerment through utilization of abundant forest products. He said that when there is buyback arrangement for its product from the BPC already in place, quality produce of highest order should be ensured. Citing that now name of Poma Village is known throughout the world via Internet because of the BPC, he urged upon them to work hard to ensure it meet more than its objectives. We are using bamboo; therefore, we should also carry out bamboo plantation, to ensure that cycle is maintained. Moreover, it should be of the species on demand, Gen Singh added. He appreciated Forest department for carrying out two hectares of bamboo plantation in the area.

Further encouraging the villagers to take up floriculture, horticulture, fishery, bee keeping, the Governor invited them to visit Raj Bhavan to see for themselves that these sectors have the potential.

Highlighting on development programme of the state government, the governor informed that now whatever work is taken up in the area would be of highest quality as the State government has introduced unique system of ‘Third Party Monitoring’. He went to advise the villagers on proper sanitation in the village and emphasized on organic farming. Pointing plastic as enemy of the environment, Gen Singh once again educated the people on it. (Contd. P-3)

(From P-1) Speaking on the occasion, newly elected local MLA Nabam Rebia expressed gratitude to the Governor for his farsighted effort in the development of rural areas particularly the Poma area. Referring Gen Singh as the People’s Governor, Rebia said, because of his concern for the people, he enjoys love and affection from all. Never in the past, Governor went to the villages and interacted with rural population. Assuring to work under the guidance of the Governor, he urged upon the people preserve the green surrounding as it will become a tourist attraction in the future. The rivers, he stressed, should be free from plastic and there should be no hunting for at least for three years from this day.

Poma ASM Techi Anna highlighted on the progress of the BPC. She also cited some problems like power supply and late deliveries of machines. Circle Officer Kiron Ningo and Head Gaon Burah Tacha Markha also spoke on the occasion.

State First Lady Anupama Singh, Chief Engineer (Power) Er. Jumtum Tato, Papum Pare ADC T. Kaye and district heads of work departments were present on the occasion amongst others.

Earlier, the first couple and the guests inspected the working of the BPC and saw some local handicraft produces. As encouragement, the Governor bought some items like Bamboo mugs. He advised them to keep some more indigenous produces such as wooden statues from Tirap, caps from Kurung Kumey, shawl from Ziro in the Curio Shop, set up attached to the BPC. First lady advised them to maintain originality in their products and not to use plastic strips in it. (PRO)