Guv advocates setting up waste depositories

ITANAGAR, Mar 04: Governor Gen (Retd) JI Singh has advocated setting up waste depositories in sectors and colonies throughout the state, and urged people to practice segregating metals, glass and biodegradable wastes in different-coloured bags at home, as is done by people in developed countries.

During a meeting with Col PS Binder of the Tezpur-based 4 Corps and City deputy commissioner Padmimi Singla at Raj Bhavan recently, the governor asked the DC to explore the possibility of implementing the idea in the capital.

“We have to change the people’s mindset and make them realize their responsibilities towards the environment,” he said. “Let us be an example for other states in environmental preservation.”

Earlier, with the help of a PowerPoint presentation, Col Bindra painted a dark picture with regard to burning, burying or burning of polythene, saying, “The problem is not over.”

He, in fact, equated the polythene problem with terrorism, and said 80% of pollution is caused by burning of polythene, and that polythene is “5000 times more dangerous than cigarettes.”

However, all was not dark. Citing the rates of waste papers, plastic bottles and old newspapers in the market, he added, “We can earn from garbage every morning. No need to throw them in open dustbins.”

Col Bindra, who, under the Army’s initiative, is carrying out campaigns in Tezpur with the involvement of NGOs, students and others, said awareness should be created through advertisements on the marketing avenues for non-biodegradable materials.

On the other hand, beer bottles, plastic water bottles and other materials should be recycled, he said. Shops or counters to receive waste materials should be opened in every colony and regulated by the civil administration, the colonel added. (PRO to governor)