

ARUNACHAL FRONT
APRIL 3, 2010

Economic, tourism activities to boost dev: PC



POMA, Apr 02: Education, health and development will come if there are economic activities, said Union Home Minister P Chidambaram after launching the production of bamboo products at the Bamboo Processing Centre here today.

He expressed pleasure to see the fruit of the project, saying it would facilitate the development of the area's socio-economic scenario.

Chidambaram, who was very impressed by the products, purchased some items as souvenirs, and encouraged the rural community to focus on such activities

which can be carried out without destroying the environment and culture.

The union minister also released a booklet on harnessing bamboo potential.

"Cane and bamboo have been part of our lives since ages but we never realized their potential. These initiatives not only improve our skills but also give good returns for our hard work," he remarked.

Earlier, during his visit to Gekar Sinyi lake, he stressed on promoting tourism in the state, and went on to compare Arunachal with Sikkim and

Bhutan in its potential in the sector.

Reassuring the promises made by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Chidambaram said the Centre would always stand by the people of Arunachal.

"The youth of Arunachal should believe that they have a bright future," he said.

"People want to come to Arunachal because of its scenic beauty and virgin environment and efforts need to be made to develop it into a major tourist hub of the country," he opined,

and stressed on developing village tourism to attract more people to this part of the country.

The Union HM released 600 fingerlings of common carp, Mrigal and tilapia into the lake.

The governor in his address expressed hope that more bamboo processing projects would come up in the state to financially empower people and arrest rural-to-urban area migration. He informed the minister about the development brought about in Poma by departments such as the PWD, the RWD, health, and tourism.

Arunachal Pradesh Forest Corporation Ltd managing director GN Sinha and Poma ASM Techi Ana also spoke. Upper Balijan ZPM Nabam Sukia submitted a memorandum seeking early notification of Poma as a model village, establishment of a cultural centre here and the establishment of the proposed NIT at Jote.

State Home Minister Tako Dabi, PWD Minister Nabam Tuki, parliamentary secretary Kumar Waii and a host of officials and public leaders accompanied Chidambaram during his visit. (PRO to Governor)