

## ARUNACHAL FRONT

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### Guv to pursue PM for mithun domestication

ITANAGAR, Apr 16: Governor JJ Singh has said he will take up with the Prime Minister the initiative to domesticate mithuns in community lands to protect the animal and the state's forests.

Addressing the people during the first ever Longte Haate celebration organized jointly by the Nyishi and Tagin communities at IG Park here Thursday, the governor said the scheme, which originates with him, would "provide shelter to the animal, restrict its movement to other farms and, most importantly, protect the flora and fauna."

Earlier, he lauded the initiative of the Nyishi and Tagin communities to jointly organize Longte Haate, and said such strengthening of fraternal bonds among the state's tribes and communities would



increase the pace of development in every corner of the state.

He also spoke about issues close to his heart, such as seeking alternatives to jhumming, tourism

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### Guv to pursue...

From P.I... promotion, 'Clean and Green Arunachal', and others.

Lok Sabha member Takam Sanjoy, who was the guest of honour, in his address said Longte Haate spreads the message of peace, nonviolence, preservation of culture and "protection of our precious wealth." Besides calling for restricting mithun slaughter during various events, the MP appealed for an end to 'dadagiri' and 'fine system' in the capital to prevent any negative message from being broadcast outside about the place.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Tanga Byaling and food and civil supplies parliamentary secretary Lokam Tassar also called for mithun preservation and promotion of fraternity among the state's tribes.

Organizing secretary Taring Rai dwelled on the festival's mythology. He informed that 'Longte' literally means a large wooden barricade or fence which is erected by the community in the belief that it demarcates the domain of humans and spirits from trespassers with ill intentions. 'Hate' means a thick cane rope used for fastening domesticated animals, especially mithuns.

This festival is celebrated in April to mark the advent of Spring. The origin of the Longte Haate festival is closely linked with the rearing of domesticated animals, and it has a great significance for the spiritual

and social wellbeing of the community and humankind as a whole, Rai explained.

Festival committee chairman Niglar Veo and organizer PL Murtem also spoke.

Besides sports activities, a colourful cultural programme was presented by 28 cultural troupes from Parsi Parlo, Chayangtajo, Damin, Daporijo, Koloriang, Nacho, Seppa, Taliha and Itanagar. A community feast was later organized.

The uniqueness of the celebration lay in the fact that no animal sacrifice was made – an initiative to preserve the local wealth. (PRO to Governor)

**DIPRO adds:** Longte Yullov was celebrated across Koloriang, Parsiparlo, Damin and Sarli areas of Kurung Kumey district with great enthusiasm and religious gaiety.

Speaking as the chief guest of the celebration in Koloriang, deputy commissioner Bidol Tayeng greeted the people, and informed that besides continuing the airdropping of rations in the interiors areas, the administration would also rectify the PDS. Healthcare facilities and functioning of schools also would be closely monitored, he added.

Besides PD T Nicyor, who was the guest of honour, former minister Kahfa Bengia also participated in the celebration which featured Ponung dance, games and sports and a community feast.