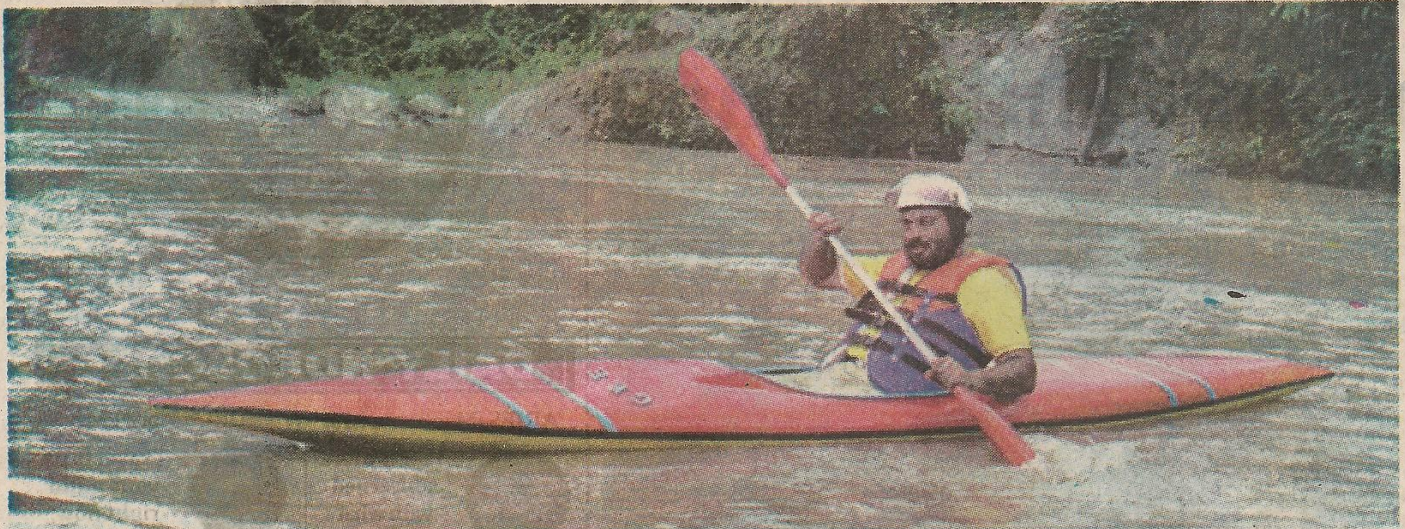


ARUNACHAL FRONT
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Adventure tourism project set in motion



JOTE, Jul 24: To encash the vast tourism potential of Arunachal Pradesh, Governor JJ Singh today set in motion a Rs 387.05 lakh adventure tourism camping destination project, the first of its type at this picturesque village along Poma river.

The project for which Rs 309.64 lakh has already been released would include bamboo-made eco-friendly picnic huts, cottages, a cafeteria, children park, public toilets in a compact fenced area with landscaping, avenue plantation and street lighting.

After inspecting the spot along with tourism

parliamentary secretary Gojen Gadi, secretary Bandana Deori, director AK Singh and Cane & Bamboo Technology Centre (CBTC) director Kamesh Salam, the governor called upon the local populace to develop friendly attitude towards the tourist, who would be the source of their economic uplift.

"Ensure, that no tourist is harassed, no one is robbed and ill treated and they feel secured when they visit your place and go back impressed to return again," the governor told the men and women including panchayat

leaders of the locality.

"Neither the eco-friendly project showcasing the local culture, besides promoting local handloom and handicraft products can be developed nor it could succeed without your willing cooperation," he told them without mincing any word.

It should be a model project of international standard for the state with facilities, he said, adding the design should have tribal textures and motifs by using locally available materials.

First lady Anupama Singh, who accompanied the governor, said if

Rajasthan, Kashmir, Kerala, Goa, Himachal Pradesh could attract tourists from all over the world, why not Arunachal, known as the last Shangri-La on the earth?

After the governor exhibited various models of cane-bamboo houses to the locals, Salam who would be providing technical support for construction, assured the governor that work would begin in September next.

The adventure-lover Gen JJ missed no chance of the location and took to the rapid strides of the Poma for canning to

the amusement of all.

After introduction of boat services in Ganga lake, this would be next attraction, particularly for nature and adventure tourists in the state capital, he said, adding if efforts are put for next five years the face of Arunachal Pradesh would change and the local people would have enough employment avenues.

The tourism department has set up its engineer unit headed EE T Ligu to expand its activities, particularly for developing infrastructures, the secretary added.