Stage set to bring State on national scene

ITANAGAR, Aug 6: The state Governor Gen J J Singh today laid the foundation stone of the Adventure Tourism Camping Destination site at Jote, nearly 40 Km off the State capital, inching towards bringing Arunachal Pradesh on the national scene of Adventure Tourism.

The Tourist Resort, first of its kind in the state is being undertaken by the Engineering wing of the State Tourism department at a sanctioned amount of Rs 387.05 lakh. The project, designed with a Cafeteria, picnic huts, eco-tourism cottages, children parks, besides parking place for vehicles is a step towards promoting adventure tourism in the state.

The Governor, while sharing his vision on the project with the people, called upon them to be the role model for the state in terms of achieving financial security to their future generation through holistic development of the area. Asking them to be partner in development of the project leading to their economic prosperity, he sought mass cooperation to make it an economic model of rural development.

Arunachal Pradesh, a veritable treasure house of nature with its immense potentiability should ideally be the tourist capital of the country and a preferred international tourist destination, the Governor said and impressed upon the people to come forward and join hands in promotion of tourism project so that the area becomes self-sufficient in all aspects.

Giving details on the project, Gen Singh dwelt on the employment generation in the tourism sector as a service industry, besides promoting sale of the local products, adding that once the project is completed, this would bring about socio-economic development in the area and raise the economic standard of the local populace. On the occasion, he exhorted the Tourist Operators to work towards highlighting the Adventure Tourism site in the world tourism map.

While informing about the initiatives for making Ganga Lake, a tourist destination, the Governor, who visited the Ganga lake and inspected the buoys installation there before arriving the Adventure Tourism site, said that Indian Navy is taking up hydrographic survey of the lake for earmarking the unsafe portions of the lake by installing buoys. He further asked the Tourism department to make the project a showcase for the entire state by using eco-friendly materials with local designs and at par with international standard.

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Taking note of the occasion which was filled with the villagers from Jote, Poma and other adjoining villages, Gen Singh stressed on capacity building of the people and advocated for organic farming, bee keeping, tea and medicinal plantation, besides multiple cropping instead of jhum cultivation. While calling upon them to protect the forests, he suggested the people to name a trekking point in his name in the nearby hill.

Earlier, Tourism Minister Jarbom Gamlin said that the Adventure Tourism Camping spot would open up the gate to the tourists, especially from abroad. While stating that the hydro power and tourism have evolved as the major industries in the state, Gamlin said that for the last five years the flow of tourists has increased manifold. He called upon the local people to be tourist-friendly to bring about economic prosperity to the area, besides asking the local Panchayat bodies to introduce certain systems like charging nominal charge for the picnic spots and use of dustbins in the area. The Tourism Minister further called upon the people to lend their support and cooperation to the project for development of the entire area.

Parliamentary Secretary for Industries, Nabam Rebia spoke in details about the significance of the Adventure Tourism project in raising the economy of the local people. While informing the people on the initiatives taken up by the Governor towards making them economically self-reliant in Nyishi dialect, he mentioned about the development of IT Park in the state and the benefits associated with it. Terming the Gen Singh as the People’s Governor, Rebia requested him for his patronization to make the project successful and sought cooperation from the people.

Tourism Secretary Bandana Deori attributed the successful launch of the project to the Governor for his initiative in the development of tourism in the state through various flagship programmes involving the local people and the department.

Parliamentary Secretary for Tourism, Gojen Gadi, Chief Secretary Tabom Bam, senior govt officers, Tour Operators and Panchayat leaders were also present on the occasion. (PRO)