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## MESSAGE

On the auspicious occasion of Nyokum, I extend my heartiest greetings and best wishes to the all Arunachalees, particularly to my Nyishi brethren. I trust, the festival, which is observed through out Arunachal Pradesh and also in many parts of the country in traditional fervour and gaiety, will invoke blessings of Mother Nature, not only for peace and prosperity for the community but for entire mankind.

Festivals, as we all know are the conveyance by which rich traditions and cultural heritages are carried forward from one generation to another. The youths and students have the opportunities to interact with the tribe elders and intellectuals on rituals and other aspects of the festival and also of the community itself during the festive occasion. Moreover, it also gives an opportunity to the community to present their cultural identity. I hope, Nyokum festival, this year will continue to help in preserve, promote and rejuvenate the customs and traditions of the Nyishi Tribe. It will also be the special occasion, when the first toy train of the State will add festivity to the celebration at Nyokum Lapang, Itanagar. I am sure, the children will thoroughly enjoy the Raj Bhavan initiative.

While offering my prayers to Nyokum Ane for the grand celebration of the festival, I would like to appeal one and all to participant in it to strengthen spirit of unity with our cultural diversity. I also would like to commend the Festival Committee for their concerted efforts in their noble initiative.

Jai Hind

Gen JJ Singh,  
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