

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

PRESS RELEASE

Governor visits JNU

Alumni must contribute towards Alma maters' projects: Governor

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, Shri PB Acharya congratulated Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar, Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi for taking initiative in setting up of the hostel for the NE students, which will be completed in a time-bound period of 18 months. He said that it is for the first time that any University has taken care to address the challenges of students from the region.

The Governor visited JNU, New Delhi on the invitation of JNU Vice Chancellor on 26th July 2017. The Governor visited the proposed 400 capacity hostel site for Northeast students in JNU and planted a sapling on the occasion.

Stating that achievers must be givers, the Governor opined that those empowered by the university have to be reminded that it is their duty to strengthen their Alma mater. He said that important infrastructure projects of top universities and colleges in the western countries are financed by the ex-students. They don't depend on Government aids and grants. He called upon the former North Eastern States students of JNU, who are doing well in life to contribute towards the NE hostel project.

The Governor advised the Vice Chancellor to promote the concept of Alumni assistance to alma mater. He volunteered to reach out to Alumni of JNU if asked for.

On his part, the Governor assured an amount of Rs. 10 (Ten) Lakh, Rs. 5 (Five) lakh from Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland for **TEN AWARDS** in the names of inspiring personalities of North Eastern States. He proposed the names of Dr. T. Ao- Olympian and Rani Ma Gaidinliu – freedom fighter (Nagaland), Daying Ering- one of the pioneers of political father figures of Arunachal Pradesh and Saint Narrottam- a Vaishnavi sage from Tirap (Arunachal Pradesh), Lachit Borphukan - Commander-in-Chief of the Ahom army (Assam), U Tirot Singh - one of the great chiefs of the Khasi people (Meghalaya), Padma Sambhav – Buddhism Saint (Sikkim), Jana Neta Hijam Irabot- social activist (Manipur), Vanapa - Father of Mizos (Mizoram) and Vir Vikram Kishore Manikya Bahadur- the great king of Tripura (Tripura)

An amount of Rs.10 (Ten) Lakh will be kept in the fixed deposit as corpus fund for the purpose and interest accrued each year will be used for the awards, which will be in kind along with a certificate, Governor Acharya's Award. Two awards for students from north eastern States and rest of the eight awards for other students of JNU.

The Governor, in an initiative to promote emotional and national integration of North East people, requested Prof M Jagadesh Kumar to introduce a Chair or Department for teaching Certificate Course on North East Tribal Dialects in JNU. He informed that Mumbai University, SNDT University, NITTE and Manipal University have already started such courses in their curriculum on the his initiative.

The Governor said that learning even a few working knowledge of local dialects will bring the hearts together as equal. Our universities should open a department or a chair for the 'NAMASTE' (Nagaland –Arunachal Pradesh-Manipur-Meghalaya-Mizoram-Assam-Sikkim-Tripura-East) NE region dialects for emotional integration, he underscored.

'I feel this will help strengthen emotional and national integration' the Governor opined.