

**PRESS RELEASE NO-190**

**Governor inaugurates XI Higher and Technical Education conference**

**Itanagar, Feb. 22:** Arunachal Pradesh Governor Gen JJ Singh inaugurated the XI Higher and Technical Education conference at Banquet Hall on Feb 22 last. State Education Minister Bosiram Siram, Vice Chancellor RGU T Mibang, P.K. Das, Director NERIST, Dr. Joram Begi, Director, Higher and Technical Education, Director School Education T. Talo, NAAC Resource person Dr. M.R. Kurup, Dr. T. Nyori, former Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, Principals of the colleges, awardees, invitees and officials were present on the occasion, **reports PRO to Governor.**

In his inaugural address Governor termed the conference a forum for introspection, assessing performances, for discussing and analyzing the problems encountered by the sphere of Higher & Technical Education in the State and above all to find effective ways and remedies in order to address those problems more effectively and efficiently.

Quoting Edward Everett, who said 'Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing Army.' Governor called inculcating spirit of competition among the students and also among the teaching faculties. This will definitely help them to excel not only in their objectives but also in their lives, he opined.

Reposing faith on the directors and principals, Gen Singh said, we have to continue our 'Guru Sisshya Parampara' and make our students to think themselves in original ways and with ingenuity.

Given the opportunity and correct environment, our children have all the talent and potential. The best example today we have is, our own Mamang Dai, an eminent poet, author and journalist, who has been given the prestigious Padmashree Award in recognition of her immense contributions in the field of literature and education. She has shown the world that our children are second to none. She has become a role model for all Arunachalee, Gen Singh said.

Governor expressed pain on reports of indiscipline among the students, he come across in the newspapers. Expressing sad on the dilapidated conditions of educational institutions, he called for inculcating sense of commitment and belonging in our institutions by all of us. We have to instill 'Apnapan' in all. I will be very happy, if you have a special session on it.

Expressing his hope that each one of the participants will continue to give their best for the State, Governor said State Government is fully committed in its endeavour to develop Arunachal Pradesh socially and economically, so that people will get good

connectivity, potable water, electricity, health facilities and good education. Testimony of our effort has been reflected in being selected for the prestigious IBN 7 Diamond State Award as the best State in the small States category by CNN-IBN. This honor is a result of the hard work and dedicated efforts put in by all the people of Arunachal Pradesh for ensuring the all-round development of the State, he added.

Congratulating the awardees Governor called upon them to lead with exemplary achievements and be a successful person. When your path is righteous, when cause is just, success will always be yours, he added.

Gen Singh, who released a book on the occasion, said as a token of encouragement to our local writers, Raj Bhavan has decided to buy a copy of each of their books. We also decided to procure a copy each for the district libraries and will send them to the districts. You will be happy to know that Raj Bhavan has decided to sponsor some research projects such as trade opportunities with Myanmar and other countries with opening of Stillwell Road through Pangsau Pass. I am optimistic that this effort of ours will awaken the hidden authors in each one of us. And which in turn will transform our education system from better to best, he hopes.

In his address, State Education Minister Bosiram Siram said that Higher and Technical Education conference facilitate us to have a meaningful dialectic to come out with useful suggestions for accelerating the pace of higher education in the State. He added, conferences of higher education have been very successful in the past and most of recommendations and suggestions emerging in this conference have been sincerely pursued for their effective implementation.

Urging the Rajiv Gandhi University to play a role model, Siram said universities and colleges are the breeding grounds of innovative ideas, new research outputs and brilliant intellectual resources.

Called for coordinated effort of all stakeholders at all levels in making education a vibrant sector in the State, State Education minister pointed, our education at school level needs more refinements for a sound foundation based on which higher education can grow.

Vice Chancellor Rajiv Gandhi University Tomo Mibang stressed E learning culture, while throwing light on the importance of the higher Education. Emphasizing on good teacher-student ratio, he also called for motivating the students towards creativity and innovativeness. We need to address teacher-student ratio, good library and infrastructure for quality education he added.

North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology Director P.K. Das dwelled on the effort of the central government in rapid growth in Higher Education. He also called for academic reviews. Das commented on semester systems, while pointing at shortage of faculty members.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Higher and Technical Education Director Dr. Joram Begi, while appraising the house on the huge expansion in Higher and Technical Education in the last one year, credited it to dynamic leadership of Education minister.

He also expressed gratitude to the Governor for regularly attending the higher and Technical education conferences since joining the State and called him as inspiring People's Governor.

Shading light on the background of education in the State since independence, DR. Begi informed that at the time of independence, there were two schools with enrolment of 35 students but today we have three thousand educational institutes with more than four lakh students. According to 1961 census, literacy rate of the State was 7.23 but today it is 54.34%, he added. Director Higher and Technical Education advocating for introducing of semester system at undergraduate level also called for educational technology such as use of internet. He also pointed at the acute shortage of faculty members at Higher Education level. Dr. Begi said, while the teacher student ratio at school level is 1:23 compare to 1:40 at national level, it is 1:41 in the State against one teacher to 20 to 30 students in the national level.

Director said, problem of the higher education will be solve to large extend if strong foundation is laid in the school level.

Dr. T.Padu, Joint Director, Higher and Technical Education also spoke on the occasion.

Governor felicitated Dr. T. Nyori, former Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh for his contribution as the pioneer of Higher Education and also presented College Teacher's awards to Dr. R.B. Tripathy, Associate Professor of Dera Natung Government College, Itanagar and Dr. Soumen Dhar Choudhury, Associate Professor. University toppers at Undergraduate level Ms. Sabita Mishra of Jawaharlal Nehru College, Pasighat, Mr. Rituparna Deka and Mr. Tsering Chota of Dera Natung Government College received the Governor's Award for University Toppers from the Governor on the occasion, while Miss Barnali Poddar and Mr. Himujal Kumar Roy of Rajiv Gandhi Government Polytechnic, Itanagar and Mr. Lagun Sonam of Tomi Polytechnic, Basar received the Arunachal Pradesh State Council for Technical Education Gold medal as toppers of Polytechnics from him.

St. Claret College, Ziro received the best National SS Unit Award, while V. Arul Kumar of Tomi Polytechnic received the best NSS programme officer. Tage Ranka of St. Claret College, Ziro and Miss Techhi Yopu of Government Higher Secondary School, Naharlagun received the best NSS volunteer awards. State Education Minister Bosiram Siram gave away the NSS awards. He also felicitated Gomar Basar, recipient of India Gandhi National Award for youth in the inaugural function.

As part of the function Governor released a book titled 'Aquaculture' by Keshav Kumar Jha, Head of Zoology Department, Jawaharlal Nehru College, Pasighat, while Education Minister released a book titled, 'Socio- Economic Transformation of Arunachal Pradesh' by Ram Krishna Mandal, Economics lecturer in Dera Natung Government College, Itanagar. Vice Chancellor RGU T Mibang released a booklet, Basic Information on Higher Education while P.K. Das, Director NERIST released the State Level Quality Assurance Cell newsletter. Dr. Joram Begi, Director, Higher and Technical Education released the NSS newsletter.

A two minute silence was observed on the occasion to pay respect to departed souls of Late Prof. JB Ganguli and Late K Namchoom, who died recently.

The two-day conference includes two technical sessions and National Assessment and Accreditation Council workshop on best practice in higher education. NAAC Resource person Dr. M.R. Kurup will share experiences of different colleges and universities on best practices in NAAC workshop. Discussion on Pre and Post Accreditation by NAAC and NBA will also be held. Workshop is sponsored by NAAC, Bangalore. During the first technical session matter related to university , which include introduction of semester system in colleges, measures for improvement of academic standard in collegiate education and designing of course curriculum for proposed model colleges will be taken up. Second technical session includes student related matters such as attendance and stipend, matters related to technical education and infrastructure development, **adds the PRO.**

**Sd/- Ome Tayeng, Asst.PRO**