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Governor releases a children's book written in Malayalam on folk heritage of A P

Itanagar, Jan, 21: Arunachal Pradesh Governor General (Retd.) J.J. Singh released a children's book written in Malayalam on folk heritage of Arunachal Pradesh at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 21st January 2012. Authored by Sathyanarayan Mundayoor, Coordinator, Lohit Youth Library Movement, and illustrated by Indrim Boo, a Digaru Mishmi professional artist from Tezu, now working in Delhi, the book titled as 'Arunachal Natoti-kathakal' contains 14 stories from different tribal communities of the State. It is narrated in a reader-friendly way and highlighting the eternal ethical and human values in the Arunachal society. It has a foreword by Sumangala, a renowned children's writer in Malayalam and is published by Mathrubhumi, a very reputed publishing house of Kerala, **reports PRO to Governor.**

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor expressed his hope that the book will reach out to the people in different parts of the country and facilitate them in knowing the rich culture assets of the Arunachal Pradesh.

Congratulating the author, the governor said that people like Sathyanarayan Mundayoor who have dedicated their entire life in the service of the Arunachali people are saving the cultural heritage, traditions and arts for posterity.

He emphasized that all the folklores, moral stories and fables of every tribe should be translated in different indigenous dialects, including English and Hindi. He also congratulated the illustrator of the book for the realistic illustrations for the stories.

Earlier introducing the book, Lower Subansiri District Deputy Commission Nila Mohanan said that folk tales are the soul and ethos of the community and the author has introduced the soul of Arunachal Pradesh to wider audiences. It will help other societies to know the rich tribal diversity of the State. It is Malayalee gift to people of Arunachal Pradesh, Mohanan added.

While expressing his view on the book, Mundayoor, who was conferred Arunachal Pradesh Governor's Silver Medal for meritorious services to the youth in 2008 said that it is reading material for diverse people, which speaks of Arunachal Pradesh. Thanking the Governor for releasing book, author said that it is an honor to a book for young people. He wished that it will encourage in bringing out of many books by many authors.

Earlier in her welcome address, Lisa Lomdok, Assistant Professor, Arunachal Institute of Tribal Studies, Rajiv Gandhi University said that this is the first ever book published in Malayalam, wholly on Arunachal culture and life, though a few articles and travelogues touching the state have appeared in Malayalam by different writers. Probably this is also the first book from Malayalis/ Keralites who have had the distinction of serving and living in the region since the NEFA days. It could also be the first book in Malayalam for children of age 10-14 years introducing them to Arunachal life.

Vice Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University Prof David Shymlich, State Information Commission and Sahitya Akademi recipient Y.D. Thongchi, Secretary to Governor Ankur Garg, Secretary Health Kaling Tayeng, APIFDC Managing Director Tony Koyu, Director Trade & Commerce and Vice President AP Literary Society Tokong Pertin, Higher and Technical Education Director Dr. Joram Begi, State Editor of Gazetteer Sokhep Kri, Executive Director of Research Institute of World's Ancient Traditions, Cultures & Heritage (RIWATCH) Vijay Swami, RIWATCH Governing Body Member Tayum Tok and secretary of Kerala Kala Samskarika Vedi Rajesh Kamalan among the hosts of literary personalities present on the occasion, **adds the PRO.**

Sd/- Ome Tayeng, Asst. PRO