

**Press Release No.26**

**Governor presents NRI awards,**

**Invites participation of NRIs in states progress**

**New Delhi, Jan. 10:** Arunachal Pradesh Governor General (Retd.) J.J. Singh graced the awards presentation ceremony of Pravasi Divas 2012 celebration organized by NRI Institute, New Delhi at New Delhi on January 10 last.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor called the Non Resident Indians as entrepreneurs. He invited them to Arunachal Pradesh and asked them participate in the socio-economic development of the Frontier State. He said that the outside world does not know much about the land of enchanting beauty and peace loving, patriotic and sincere tribal people.

With a help of audio visual footage of Arunachal Pradesh, the Governor gave a vivid presentation of the State. He said that Arunachal Pradesh is the largest among all the North eastern states. The state is home to 26 major tribes and more than 100 sub tribes living in 3857 villages spread across 83743 sq kms. The population density at 17 per sq kms is the least in the country, and in some of the districts like Dibang Valley, it is as low as one person per sq km. The state is on a path of development and will become the power house of the Nation in next decade or so, with an estimated capacity of 55,000 MW of hydel power. It also has immense potential for eco tourism, he added.

Highlighting on recent adoption of the state Public Private Partnership Policy, 2011, the Governor informed the NRIs that the policy envisages leveraging central and state government funds to support private investment, setting up of a transparent mechanism to create level playing field for all participants, prepare shelf of projects under PPP and implement them through transparent selection process, create a robust redressal mechanism and provide viability gap funding for essential projects. The important sectors identified for PPP projects in Arunachal Pradesh include roads and bridges, airports and helipads, industrial parks and theme parks like IT park, biotechnology park, water supply treatment and distribution, power generation and transmission, official sources said. The Governor further informed that solid waste management and drainage, tourism, healthcare, education, urban infrastructure, agriculture, horticulture, forestry and allied sectors have also been identified.

While inviting the participation of NRIs in the rapid progress of the State, the Governor maintained that the development should be in such a pace, where indigenous people are comfortable.

The Governor also spoke on the important role played by NRI in projecting the image of India abroad. He said that though they live in different countries, speak different languages, practice different faiths and are engaged in different vocations, they are bound together by the common thread of a shared culture and the strong bond with their country of origin. In every part of the world they are recognized and respected for its hard work, discipline, law abiding nature and for successfully integrating with the local community. The community serves as an important 'bridge' to access knowledge, expertise, resources and markets for the development of India.

The Governor also appreciated the NRI Institute, New Delhi led by Shri Udai Patel and Dr. S.K. Pauchauri for doing a tremendous job in connecting people of Indian origins to its root in the country. Through its initiatives like global summits, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas and newsletters etc., NRI Institute has been keeping all well informed about Indians abroad. It has played an active role to promoting and facilitating NRI investments in India. In the last two decades, the organization has been providing a platform for exchanges and mutual benefits to Indians living in India and abroad through its local offices in many countries, he added.

The Chief Guest presented the NRI Institute – Parvasi Awards to A. K. Usman, M.S.Bukhari and K.P. Abdul Hameed from Doha, Dr. Ajit Swaran Singh from New Zealand, Dr. Apurv Gupta, Dr. C M Prasad and Rennu Dhillon from USA, Avijit Das

from South Africa, Harsha Kumar Rai from Oman, Kishore M. Tulsidas from Mauritius, S.P. Singh Oberoi from Dubai, Neil Prasad from India and Atul Pathak, Dhiren Katwa, Gaurav Juneja, Mehmood Khan, Prof. Poonam Kumar from UK. Dr. Rami Ranger, also from UK received the NRI Institute – Pravasi Lifetime Awards

Dr Bal Ram Jakhar Former Governor MP, H .E Nimisha Madhvani Uganda's High Commissioner to India, Rajesh Satija President Sun and Sand Industries Ltd, Jagmohan Singh, Secretary General, Dr Rami Ranger from UK, Dr G S Paul from Canada, Tarlochan Singh MP and Joginder Singh IPS (Retd.) were amongst the dignitaries.

The Chief Guest Gen Singh released the magazine NRI achievers.

The Pravasi divas celebration was also addressed by Rajesh Satija from Nigeria, Dr. Rami Ranger from UK, Dr. G.S. Paul and Bandana Singh. Introductory Remarks was delivered by Jagmohan Singh, Secretary General, NRI Institute, **reports PRO to Governor.**

Sd/- DIPR