

PRESS RELEASE SL No- 493

Arunachal Pradesh Governor's autobiography released

Itanagar, June 11: The autobiography of Arunachal Pradesh Governor and former Indian Army Chief General(Retired) JJ Singh was released at Imperial Palace, New Delhi on June 9 amid presence of top luminaries of defence, civil establishments, friends and relatives.

“A Soldier's General” which will also come out in Marathi, Punjabi, Bengali, Assamese, Hindi, Telugu and Malayalam versions not only relates his childhood fancies but his milestones as a warrior.

Through the book, Singh takes the readers through his ancestry, childhood and a vast number of issues, including his tenure as Army Chief, India's relationship with its neighboring countries, the Sino-Indian border issue, Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) and ethics in the Army.

Addressing the Audience at the launch of the book, he hinted that he derived his inspiration as author and soldier from his grandfather who had served in the 1/67 Punjab Regiment during the First World War in Mesopotamia and Kut-al-Amara, both in present day Iraq. The sound of bugle reminds me of my grandfather because he was very proficient at playing the bugle and bagpipes. ‘My grandfather once told me that in his time, English Officers inspected the Indians, then looking at me with pride, he said and now my grandson has done an inspection of English soldiers in London,’ Said JJ Singh.

The Governor admitted that it had been difficult to write his autobiography. He said that it was a “Tough” decision as he was in a moral dilemma about whether he could write his achievements objectively.

My present position prevented me from writing about sensitive issues. Nevertheless, the book is a lucid account of a simple soldier who reached the top of the Army without a godfather.

“ I have narrated my innermost thoughts and written personalized descriptions of the events that I have witnessed,” he said.

It took the former Army Chief four years to complete the book. He had decided to write down his memoir when he was appointed Army Chief on November 27, 2004, **reports i/c PRO to Governor.**

Sd/- Purabi Taikam, PRO