

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
ITANAGAR**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. Gen (Retd) Nirbhay Sharma inaugurated a seminar on 'Issues in Sino-Indian Relations and Leadership Change in China' at Kolkata, West Bengal on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2013. The seminar was organized by the Kolkata Chapter of Observer Research Foundation (ORF), a leading think tank of India.

Presiding over the seminar, the Governor emphasized on building matching infrastructure in the North eastern States to balance what China has done in Tibet. He said strengthening it is a must to ensure peace and cordial relationship.

Citing connectivity as one of the major problem in the strategically located North east region, the Governor said other than Assam, only 66km of railway line has been built in the region since Independence. Poor connectivity and infrastructures have posed serious problems in the developmental progress of Arunachal Pradesh, he added.

The Governor said that India has to look at China in a pragmatic manner because of a wide gap in the capabilities of the two countries.

Highlighting at the positive note of the India-Sino relationship, the Governor said despite the 1962 border conflict and both the countries being unable to resolve their border dispute, not a single shot had been fired in anger by either side since 1967 which was a big achievement.

Dr. C. Raja Mohan, Distinguished Fellow, ORF delivered his talk on 'India's China Policy', while Dr. Manoj Joshi, Defence Analyst and Distinguished Fellow, ORF spoke on 'China-India Border Issues'. Professor Sobhanlal Dutta Gupta, Professor of Political Science, Calcutta University delivered lecture on the topic 'Leadership Change in China and Its Implications'.

Earlier in his welcome address, Shri Sunjoy Joshi, Director, ORF spoke in length on the endeavour of the organization. Shri Ashok Dhar, Distinguished Fellow, ORF also spoke on the occasion. Eminent scholars, number of important dignitaries, ORF officials, and members of media fraternity attended the seminar.

The outcome of the Seminar will be synthesized into a Policy Brief and circulated widely among policy makers.

PRO to Governor  
Arunachal Pradesh  
ITANAGAR, July 28, 2013