

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

PRESS RELEASE

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt Gen (Retd) Nirbhay Sharma flagged off a reconnaissance expedition to Mount Kangto from Raj Bhawan, Itanagar on 29th September 2014. The expedition is being organised by Indian Mountaineering Foundation, New Delhi in collaboration with National Institute of Mountaineering & Allied Sports (NIMAS), Dirang and Department of Sports & Youth Affairs, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh. The twenty-day expedition will start from 1st October 2014.

Exhorting the members of mountaineering expedition, the Governor said that it is a very important initiative to promote adventure sports of the State. Arunachal Pradesh has huge potential for adventure activities. Events like this expedition provide a window or exposure to the potentials of the region for the world to see. The State government is contemplating to develop adventure tourism in the State so that it would become a major hub for tourism activities also, the Governor added.

The Governor congratulated all the people involved in the pioneering effort and wished for success of the mission.

Sharing his views, the Governor said that mountaineering and trekking activities help an individual in improving persona quality, knowledge and in career. During mountaineering, a person gain knowledge of cooperation, coordination and confidence. His or her presence of mind, quick decision, determination, grit and guts are tested. The individual gains management skills, patience and strength. Mountaineer develops leadership quality, mental and technical power and of all, the Spirit of Adventure.

Encouraging people towards mountaineering, the Governor said that mountaineering often involves a whole spectrum of emotions and sometimes they can all collide at once. Words cannot describe the sense of freedom you get when you are ascending a mountain. It is truly a spiritual experience leaving you feeling really alive. You will find out a lot about yourself, some inner strengths you never ever knew were there as well as developing new strengths. On any ascent there will be good times and bad times too, that's what makes the sports so personally challenging and character building. Joy and sadness, triumph and defeat can all be experienced within moments of each other. You may experience times when you ask yourself 'Why am I doing this ?' But those moments pass to be replaced by great feelings of achievement that will stay with you forever.

While reminding of the environmental degradation in Mount Everest, the Governor advised the team that it should spread the message of Swachchh Bharat Abhiyan.

Briefing on the purpose of the expedition, Shri Dani Salu, Secretary, Sports & Youth Affairs, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh said that the expedition is first of its kind to the highest peak of the State, which aims to explore route to base camp of the 7042 meters peak from Indian side of the mountain. He informed that there is no record of any expedition of this nature. With participation of local Everesters, the Secretary said that the effort will facilitate in exploring the vast mountain range of the State. The Secretary also added that Arunachal Pradesh is an ideal place from adventure sports including river rafting, para gilding.

The Climbing Leader Shri Amit Chowdhury, Instructor, NIMAS, Dirang gave a presentation of the proposed route of expedition. He informed that the ten-member team, along with local porters and guides will start from Nafra. It will go to Dibin, then Nazong and Dibri. From Dibri, it will move forward along Waren Bung River to Bisai and then to Sakung Water Fall. From Sakung onwards, the team will move along Wasag Bung River to the glacier located south of Kangto Range. Shri Chowwdhury also briefed on administrative and logistical aspects of the expedition.

The team consist of Everesters from Arunachal Pradesh and experience Army mountaineers led by Shri Amit Chowdhury, Instructor, NIMAS, Dirang. Shri Tapi Mra, first Everester of the State, Shri Nima Lama and Shri Tame Bagang are the members of the team, while Col. Gulshan Chadha, Principal, National Institute of Mountaineering & Allied Sports (NIMAS), Dirang is the Convenor of the expedition.

Secretary to Governor Shri Shurbir Singh, Shri D.K. Dinglow, Director Sports & Youth Affairs, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri M. Momocha, Memeber and representative of Manipur Mountaineering & Trekking Association, Shri Kishor Kr Kalita, Member and representative of Assam Mountaineering Association, officials from NIMAS and Department of Sports & Youth Affairs were also present on the occasion.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
ITANAGAR, September 29, 2014