

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
ITANAGAR**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Shri JP Rajkhowa along with the First Lady of the State Smt Rita Rajkhowa visited the Biological Park, Itanagar, 9 km away from Itanagar on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) Dr. Rabindra Kumar accompanied the first couple.

Curator of the Biological Park, Shri Raya Flago and Zoo veterinarian Dr. Sorang Tadap ushered them around the 2.5 Sq. Km Park, which has varieties of mammals, birds and reptiles kept in separate enclosures.

The Curator of the Biological Park Shri Raya Flago informed that there are more than 200 animals and large numbers of birds in the Park, which includes Royal Bengal tigers, clouded leopards, leopards, Sambar, Barking Deer, Wild Boar, tortoises, alligators, monkeys, Brown Fish Owl, turkey, Macaw, and hornbills etc.

The Governor emphasised that the park must have other animals like Rhinoceros, Hippopotamuses and Chimpanzees for visitors to see. He advised the Forest officials to tie up with other States and Zoos under exchange programmes.

The Governor said that he will take up with his Assam counterpart for some Rhinoceros in the Parks of Arunachal Pradesh. Assam has gifted many Rhinos to many States like Odissa and Delhi, so the State will definitely gift some Rhinos to Arunachal Pradesh also, he added.

Sharing his experiences of visiting zoos in India and abroad, particularly San Diego Zoo in USA, the Governor said that the Park must introduce fibreglass signboards near the enclosures for providing details of the inmates for the information of the public.

The Governor said that like Parks all over the world it must have concession for the senior citizens and physically challenged people in the entry fee. The Park must have special provisions for them to enjoy the best of the facilities. He also advised the Park officials for renovation of the railings, enclosures and road link to the Park and its internal roads.

During the visit, the Governor interacted with other visitors and exhorted them, particularly the parents and guardians to visit the Park regularly along with their wards as it is very educative for the children and place for physical exercise for others.

Citing deaths of large numbers of Vultures, which are considered to be best natural scavengers, in Assam due to pesticides some months earlier, the Governor called for more awareness on birds and animals through facilities like Biological Parks and Zoos. Such facilities promote conservation of the flora and fauna, he said.

Arunachal Pradesh has one of the 35 hotspots of the world and also large numbers of endangered flora and fauna. More effort must be there by the Forest officials and people of the State to preserve the treasured nature's bounty, the Governor emphasised

Later, the Governor and the First Lady visited the Hoolock Gibbon Conservation Breeding Centre, located in the restricted area of the Park. The Governor lauded the efforts of the Park officials and conveyed his good wishes for their future endeavours.

PRO to Governor  
Arunachal Pradesh  
ITANAGAR, November 15, 2015