

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

PRESS RELEASE

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Shri JP Rajkhowa visited the Bamboo Processing Centre, Poma on 12th September 2015. The Governor interacted with the trainees, master trainers and members of Poma Village Development Society, which is running the centre. Facilitated by Departments of Planning and Environment & Forests, Government of Arunachal Pradesh and implemented by Arunachal Pradesh Forest Corporation limited, the Bamboo Processing Center was set up with technical help from Cane and Bamboo Technology Center (CBTC), Guwahati at Poma Village, 32 km from Itanagar and inaugurated on 18th August 2009.

The Governor observed that the Centre is good for economic empowerment of rural community but to realise that it must involve the youth in big way. He emphasised that youth of the State must work hard and not shy away physical labour. Citing example of former President APJ Abdul Kalam and Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi, who had toiled in their early life but achieved spectacular success, the Governor advised the youth to imbibe a high sense of dignity of labour.

He was informed that 60 persons were provided training in the last financial year, against capacity for 360 trainees in a year because of paucity of funds. The Governor, stating that Credit Deposit Ratio of the State stands at 21.2 % where as the All India Ratio is 78.1% , advised that financial assistance must be provided to the trained persons from the Centre by the Banks and financial institutions as part of the State Programme to generate and provide employment. He desired that the Government of Arunachal Pradesh should take up the matter with Banks and provide positive support to the Centre.

The instructors also informed that most of the machines installed in 2009, when the Centre was set up are not functioning and outdated and the Governor advised that the machines need to be replaced with latest ones, preferably automatic machines, which do not require much physical labour and are more efficient.

The Governor further advised the villagers to focus on value added handicrafts that fetch more profit than Agarbati sticks, where production cost is much higher than the return per kilogram of sticks. He suggested them to make handicraft items like 'Murha' and small chairs for children from cane and bamboo, which he opined will sell like hot cakes.

Later the Governor also visited Jotte Adventure Camp Site, Jotte. He asked the in-charge of the tourist complex to maintain the tourist facility properly to facilitate more flow of tourists particularly those interested in adventure tourism. He stressed on dust bins in the site and disposal of plastic materials in appropriate manner. The lessee of the Complex requested for protecting the land from the erosion by Poma River, for which he asked them to submit proposal to Tourism Department.

The Managing Director of Arunachal Pradesh Forest Corporation Ltd Shri C. D. Singh was present at Poma Bamboo Processing Centre to brief the Governor.

The Deputy Commissioner Shri Tai Kaye received the Governor at Poma Bamboo Processing Centre, Poma and accompanied him to the Jotte Adventure Camp Site. The Deputy Commissioner was advised to take special interest for development of the Centre and organising training of at least 360 trainees in a year, under the Skill Development Mission of Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
ITANAGAR, September 12, 2015