## GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT ARUNACHAL PRADESH ITANAGAR

## **CLARIFICATION**

There are media reports appeared on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in a section of the Regional Press based on false assumptions on Governor of Arunachal Pradesh in regards to Governors' Conference. The news item has shown Raj Bhavan in a very poor light, due to incorrect reporting about the absence of the Governor at the Conference.

It may be noted here that in view of the Promulgation of President's Rule in Arunachal Pradesh, the administrative responsibilities of the Raj Bhavan have increased tremendously. As per the delegation of financial powers decided by the State Government, the Governor has to accord approval of financial proposals and also administrative approval to a large number of files. And given the fact that the current period is the peak season of the Financial Year end, a lot of proposals will have to be accorded sanctioned expeditiously. If the Governor who had to go on leave out of station for medical ground followed by the Governors' Conference, he would have been out of station for 6-7 days and non sanction of proposals on time adversely impacting development works. Further, in view of the urgency to monitor developments on the law and order and security front on daily basis by the Governor, following imposition of the President's Rule, it was not considered advisable by the Governor himself to be out of Headquarters for days at a time.

Moreover, it may be noted that when the decision to request Rashtrapati Bhavan for exemption from attending the Conference was taken by the Governor, one of the two Advisors Shri YS Dadwal had proceed on leave and was not likely to rejoin before 17<sup>th</sup> February and the second Advisor Shr GS Patnaik, who joined on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016 was just settling down onto his job. Third Advisor Shri BD Sharma was yet to join.

In this regard, two letters were sent to Rashtrapati Bhavan on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February 2016 by the Governor's Secretary vide letters No. GS -20/2012 (Vol-III)/7801 dated February 03, 2016 and No. GS -20/2012 (Vol-III)/7892 dated February 04, 2016requesting the Rashtrapati ji to exempt the Hon'ble Governor from attending the preparatory meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> and the Conference on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016. A reply from Rashtrapati Bhavan, vide letter No. F.7-CA(I)/2015 dated 5 February 2016, stating that 'President is pleased to accept the request of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh to exempt him to attend the COG 2016' was received on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016 by faxed. Hence it was decided by the Rashtrapatiji to exempt incumbent Governor Shri J.P. Rajkhowa from attending the Conference on the merits and in public interest, at Governor's request and not on 'so called advice' of anyone.

As I have already requested the media fraternity and would reiterate again that it will be appreciated if views of the Raj Bhavan are obtained before going to the press and media houses for carrying any article/ news report on the Raj Bhavan.

Looking forward to your kind cooperation.

PRO to Governor Arunachal Pradesh ITANAGAR, February 10, 2016