

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

PRESS RELEASE

We should not fail the people of the state: Governor on Chakma Hajong issue

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Shri JP Rajkhowa took strong exception to the poor performance of the State's Legal Team in the Chakma Hajong refugee issue. He has directed the Chief Secretary and the Principal Secretary Home to immediately hire the country's best lawyers to take up the matter in the Supreme Court.

The Governor was shocked as to why the previous State Government had not hired a battery of eminent lawyers in the Chakma Hajong case. The vexing issue of permanent settlement of Chakmas and Hajongs in Arunachal Pradesh has stirred the sentiments of the indigenous tribal people of the State. He felt that the position of the State has not been put before the Apex Court earnestly and adequately and that's why the State lost the case. We should not fail the people of the state. The rights of the indigenous tribes of the State has to be protected as enshrined in the Constitution of India, the Governor emphasised.

The Governor has directed Chief Secretary to pay personal attention to the Chakma Hajong issue. The Chief Secretary and the State's Legal Team are asked to review and represent the entire matter once again.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
ITANAGAR, February 13, 2016