

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

PRESS RELEASE

Bring changes to traditional practices and stress on bringing universal education: Governor to Puroiks

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Shri JP Rajkhowa graced the 17th Mega Gumkum Gumpa festival celebration at Nyokum Niya Festival Ground, Nirjuli on 25th April 2016.

Conveying his festival greetings on the occasion, the Governor commended the efforts of the All Puroik Welfare Society in organizing the festival in the line and true spirit of Gumkum Gumpa. He said that the community must use the platform of the festival and discuss to bring changes to traditional practices and stress on bringing universal education amongst the members of the tribe. He advised them to work in unison for the welfare of the members, community and the State.

While advising the community to work for their society, the Governor also advised to them to safeguard the nature. Stating that people have blocked the natural streams by constructing buildings and throwing garbage, the Governor said that such unethical practices have resulted in road blocks, floods and diversion of natural flow, which in turn resulted in bringing pain and discomfort to the people at large.

The Governor also called upon the people to dedicatedly participate in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

The Governor exhorted the youth of the community to sharpen their skills in games and sports activities and excel in life. He informed them that Governor's Trophy is being instituted for Archery Competition in the State as Puroiks are said to be good in Archery.

Assuring to help for rehabilitation of the community, the Governor advised the members to work in a planned manner with futuristic view. Pointing that time and tide waits for none, he advised the community to properly utilize their time for welfare of all.

Concurring with the view of Shri Kahfa Bengia, who proposed for a welfare board for the Puroik, the Governor suggested for 'Autonomous Development Board' for minor communities and tribes, who does not have political representative in the State Legislative Assembly.

Speaking on the occasion, the Guest of Honour of the occasion and President, People's Party of Arunachal, Shri Kahfa Bengia suggested for setting up of the Puroik Welfare Board for upliftment of the puroik Community. He also suggested for exploring a way to have a political representative of the community.

Dwelling in length, the challenges of the community, Shri Bengia highlighted on welfare measures provided by the Government of India and State Government. He advised the Puroik community to properly utilize the benefits provided to them. Stating that they have huge potential in sports like archery he advised them to harness their skill in games and sports and also explore employment in Army and Police owing to their physical toughness and eco-friendly lifestyle. He called upon the members of the community for regrouping and static settlement and do away with their nomadic lifestyle.

Submitting a 3-point memorandum on the occasion, the President of All Puroik Welfare Society, Shri Adang Yachu urged upon the Governor for his personal intervention for implementation of the welfare measures as directed by Guwahati High Court for the Puroik Community. He also requested the Governor for facilitating in proper demarcation of land allotted to the members of the community and in providing a Gumkum Gumpa festival ground. The APWS President said that as the community does not have any political representative, it has created hindrance in its overall development. APWS Games & Sports Secretary Shri Bihu Painchey also spoke on the occasion.

A colourful programme, representing the cultural heritage of Puroik Community was presented on the occasion. Representatives from East Kameng, Kurung Kumey, Papum Pare and Kra Daadi Districts, including Goan Burahs attended the function.

Earlier, the Governor unveiled the foundation stone for the Puroik Model Village at Karsingsa, in presence of members of Puroik welfare Society and land donor Shri Tadar Rachey.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
ITANAGAR, April 25, 2016