

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

PRESS RELEASE

**Facilitate joint sector entrepreneurship projects for the people of Arunachal in
Bhutan: Governor to Indian Ambassador to Bhutan**

The Ambassador of India to Bhutan Shri Jaideep Sarkar called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Shri JP Rajkhowa at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 29th April 2016. It was a courtesy call.

In the meeting, the Governor and the Ambassador of India to Bhutan discussed on various sectors, where the two neighbouring countries can have mutual benefits and collaborations, particularly Arunachal Pradesh.

The Governor emphasised on the urgent need to take up the Lumla –Tashigang road for strengthening the border trade between the two countries. He said that apart from giving an alternate road for the people of Tawang to reach Guwahati and other parts of the country, the road will facilitate trade, tourism and other economic activities between the two countries. The Indian portion of the road from Lumla upto the border point at Warongde of Bhutan has already been completed and is motorable. A small stretch of 12 kms from Warongde to Khinye in Bhutan remains to be connected, beyond which the all weather road exists connecting all parts of Bhutan. The distance from Tawang to Guwahati via Samdrupdzongkar is 395 kms compared to the normal existing route, which is about 550 kms and thus a distance of 155 kms will be reduced, when Lumla-Tashigang road is connected.

Stating that Arunachal Pradesh is the highest producer of Kiwi in India and has abundant horticultural produces, the Governor advised the Ambassador to explore for joint venture in food processing and winery. It will help the state in big way as the State's market link is weak. He also asked him to facilitate in joint sector entrepreneurship projects for the entrepreneurs of both sides.

Recalling the ancient cultural ties between the people of Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh and Assam, particularly during the reign of Koch king, Nara Narayana and his Prime Minister Chilarai, the Governor called for strengthening the age-old relationships. He suggested for people to people contacts and interactions through cultural exchange programmes and students and faculty exchanges programmes with the Bhutanese Universities and Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh, North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Nirjuli and National Institute of Technology, Yupia.

Earlier, the Ambassador, who is on a tour to all the relevant States of India to strengthen ties with Bhutan, briefed the Governor on the country and avenues for collaboration and cooperation. He requested the Governor for initiating in sending delegates from Arunachal Pradesh to Bhutan to start with, for cementing better ties and joint ventures, which the Governor assured to do at the earliest.

Later, Shri Sarkar, who was accompanied by his wife, Smt Minako Sarkar visited the Raj Bhavan Orchidarium and was very impressed by the serenity of the whole compound embedded in lush green environment.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
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