

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

PRESS RELEASE

Governor extends Sangken Festival greetings

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Brig. (Dr.) B.D. Mishra (Retd.) has extended warm greetings to people of the State on the auspicious occasion of Sangken. He expressed his hope that the occasion will inspire all to follow the sublime path shown to us by Lord Buddha.

The Governor in his message said that during Sangken celebration, the images of Lord Buddha are taken out of the shrine, given a ceremonial bath and placed in the 'Kyongfra' to the accompaniment of drums and cymbals. People pray happily and enjoy the last days of the old year and welcome the New Year with goodwill and togetherness. The offering of sweets and food in the temple and its distribution to the people marks the occasion. The piety of pouring water over each other is an important sanctimonious event of this festival. Water is also poured over all the holy objects, including the Boddhi tree, and on the hands of Bhikkhus (monks) to invoke their blessings. This is to seek good luck, good health, peace and harmony which should pervade throughout the year. Many people observe this festival in its pure form with abstinence from killing, stealing, lying, intoxicants, disputes, and felling of trees. All these activities run up to the main objective of the occasion, i.e., promote peace, amity, and harmony amongst the people, the Governor said.

On this happy occasion, I join my Khampti and Singpho brethren in offering prayers to Lord Buddha and seeking his blessings for one and all, the Governor said in his message.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
ITANAGAR, April 13, 2019