

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
ITANAGAR**

**Press Communiqué**

**GI Expert Dr. Rajni Kant calls on the Governor**

Dr. Rajni Kant, a renowned Geographical Indication (GI) expert from Uttar Pradesh, called on the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025. They discussed on the significance of GI tagging in safeguarding the traditional arts, crafts, and unique products of Arunachal Pradesh's tribal communities.

During the meeting, the Governor emphasized the critical role of GI certification in preserving the identity, authenticity, and economic value of indigenous products of the State which has a large number of tribes with distinct traditions and cultural heritage. Drawing from his observations during district tours, he highlighted that GI tagging not only ensures the protection of traditional knowledge and craftsmanship but also fosters sustainable economic growth by enhancing the marketability of local products.

The Governor said that GI tagging will guarantee quality, build consumer confidence, and promote Arunachal Pradesh's rich cultural heritage on a national and global scale.

The Governor had earlier felicitated Dr. Rajni Kant during the 39<sup>th</sup> Statehood Day celebrations in the State Capital, recognizing his pivotal role in securing GI registration for 18 indigenous products of Arunachal Pradesh. Acknowledging his significant contributions, the Governor urged Dr. Kant to continue supporting the State in its efforts to preserve and promote its unique cultural and traditional identity.

Dr. Rajni Kant, General Secretary of the Human Welfare Association, Varanasi, is a Padma Shri awardee and is widely known as the 'GI Man of India' for his instrumental role in securing GI certification for 59 products across 20 states in India. His expertise has helped bring global recognition to various indigenous crafts and products, reinforcing their cultural significance and economic value.

PRO to Governor  
Arunachal Pradesh  
ITANAGAR, February 20, 2025