

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

Press Communiqué

Governor participates in Gujarat-Maharashtra Diwas

Governor emphasizes that initiatives like 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' have been instrumental in promoting cultural unity, mutual understanding, and national integration across India

Governor thanks the Gujarati and Marathi communities for their continued contribution to the developmental journey of Arunachal Pradesh

Governor commends the enthusiasm of Arunachali children in learning about the cultural values and traditions of other States

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt. General K.T. Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), participated in the celebration of Gujarat and Maharashtra Foundation Day at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar, on 1st May 2025. The event was attended by members of the Gujarati and Marathi communities residing or serving in Arunachal Pradesh and was held in alignment with the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to promote national unity through cultural harmony.

The Governor, on behalf of the people of Arunachal Pradesh, extended warm greetings to the people of Gujarat and Maharashtra on their State Foundation Day. He paid heartfelt tributes to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, recalling their historic contributions to India's territorial integrity and nation-building.

Highlighting the cultural link between Arunachal Pradesh and Gujarat, the Governor shared his experience of attending the annual Madhavpur Fair in Gujarat, which celebrates the union of Lord Krishna and Rukmini. He noted that folklore in Gujarat and parts of the Northeast, including Arunachal Pradesh, associates Rukmini's origins with this region, symbolizing a deep cultural bond between the two areas.

The Governor also acknowledged the significant role played by the Marathi community in educational and social development during the formative years of Arunachal Pradesh in the early 1960s. He mentioned initiatives such as student exchange programmes that contributed to the State's early progress and nation-building efforts.

Expressing appreciation, the Governor thanked the Gujarati and Marathi communities for their continued contribution to the developmental journey of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Governor was particularly impressed by the cultural performances presented by the students of CK Bliss Health & Rhythm, Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya, Nirjuli, Government Upper Primary School, ESS Sector, Itanagar, and Oju Mission. He commended the enthusiasm of Arunachali children in learning about the cultural values and traditions of other States.

Praising the spirit of the performers, the Governor emphasized that initiatives like 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' have been instrumental in promoting cultural unity, mutual understanding, and national integration across India. He also appreciated the parents, who encouraged their wards to learn dances of other States.

Highlights of the programme were Gujarati Garba Dance and Marathi Lavani Dance by the students of CK Bliss -Health & Rhythm, and solo Marathi Dance 'Natrang Ubha' by Miss Manami Moyir Gamlin. The students of Government Upper Primary School, ESS Sector, Itanagar, presented traditional Galo Dance 'Jimi Ane', while Children and staff of Oju Mission presented traditional Dance 'Aruge Kamchi Nyi Donyi Ge' - A Celebration of Tribal Identity and Nature.

Children of K Blooming-Early Intervention and Learning Centre, Naharlagun attended as the Special Guest of the Governor on the occasion.

As part of the celebrations, the Governor hosted a high tea, interacting with guests and participants.