#### GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT ARUNACHAL PRADESH ITANAGAR

## Press Communiqué

### Governor participates in Waqf Reform Awareness Meet

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# Governor appeals to the people to continue fostering goodwill and positive thought for the progress of the society, the State and the Nation

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Lt. General KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.) participated in the Waqf Reform Awareness Meet at Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The event brought together community leaders, scholars, and representatives from various faiths to discuss the significance of the recently passed Waqf Amendment Bill 2025.

Interacting with the participants, the Governor emphasized that the Bill results from extensive consultations, thoughtful deliberations, and collective effort to bring meaningful reforms to benefit all sections of the Muslim community. He said that the process was guided by the inclusive spirit of 'Sabka Prayas', and reflected a true sense of national participation and teamwork.

The Governor said that Waqf Amendment Bill 2025 is a progressive step forward and it is designed to ensure that the benefits and revenues from Waqf properties are directed toward the upliftment of those in need, helping them to stand on par with other communities. He added that the reform is not just about administration, but about empowerment and equity.

The Governor appealed to the Muslim community not to have the feeling that they are a minority community. Citing inspiring examples of prominent Muslim figures who have made invaluable contributions to India, including the late President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, he said that the community has been contributing richly to the growth and progress of the society and the country.

The Governor, while acknowledging the participation of members of all faiths in the Meet, said that in Arunachal Pradesh, the people of the State have highest regards for all religions and respect them. He appealed to the people to continue fostering goodwill and positive thought for the progress of the society, the State and the Nation.

State Indigenous Affairs and Home Minister Shri Mama Natung described the Waqf Amendment Bill 2025 as a corrective and inclusive step, aligned with the national vision of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur Sabka Prayas. He encouraged all citizens to understand the positive impact of the Bill and work together to strengthen communal harmony.

Prof. Nani Bath and Prof. Nabum Naka Hina from the Department of Political Science, Rajiv Gandhi University, along with Dr. M.Q. Khan, Principal of Dera Natung Government College, provided insightful presentations on the history of Waqf, the key amendments introduced in the Bill, and the long-term benefits for the community..

Dharm Gurus and representatives from various faiths, including Indigenous, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, and Christian communities as well as respected members of civil society attended the Meet. Special invitees from diverse walks of life also participated, reflecting the spirit of unity and inclusiveness that defined the event.

PRO to Governor Arunachal Pradesh ITANAGAR, May 9, 2025