

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

Press Communiqué

Arunachal Raj Bhavan observes Sikkim Diwas

Sikkim is one of the most peaceful, disciplined, and cleanest States in the country. It has set a benchmark in sustainable development that other States must emulate: Governor

Governor emphasizes the need to explore models similar to Sikkim and Bhutan's sustainable tourism

The Golden Jubilee of Sikkim's Statehood was celebrated at the Raj Bhavan in Itanagar on 16th May 2025 in the spirit of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'. The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt. General K.T. Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), graced the occasion and interacted with members of the Sikkimese community residing in the State.

Extending heartfelt greetings to the people of Sikkim on this historic occasion, the Governor lauded the State's remarkable achievements over the past 50 years. He said that Sikkim is one of the most peaceful, disciplined, and cleanest States in the country. It has set a benchmark in sustainable development that other states, including Arunachal Pradesh, can learn from, he said.

The Governor, on behalf of the people of Arunachal Pradesh, expressed gratitude to the people of Sikkim who are serving and contributing to the development of Arunachal Pradesh.

Highlighting Sikkim's leadership in areas such as education, healthcare, organic farming, and tourism, the Governor described it as a true success story. "With its breathtaking natural beauty and commitment to ecological harmony, Sikkim is an inspiration. It's not just an organic state, but also one that blooms with orchids and cultural richness," he remarked.

The governor commended the people of Sikkim for preserving their age-old traditions and cultural heritage. He noted their warm hospitality and deep pride in their identity. He said that the people of Sikkim are among the most hospitable in the country. They carry their culture with dignity and grace, he said.

Speaking about the tourism potential of Arunachal Pradesh, the Governor emphasized the need to explore models similar to Sikkim and Bhutan's sustainable tourism. He said that our State must draw inspiration from the Sikkimese model, which has managed to balance development with environmental preservation.

Reflecting on his close association with Sikkim during his military service, the Governor fondly recalled his tenure as the General Officer Commanding (2005–06), during which the Nathula Pass trade route was reopened. He also remembered key initiatives like the establishment of one of the world's highest golf courses in Sikkim.

During the interactive session, members of the Sikkimese community shared their deep appreciation for Arunachal Pradesh and its people. They spoke of the cultural similarities between the two states and their sense of belonging in their adopted home. As a token, cultural presentation, the students from the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST) presented a song titled 'Hamaro Sikkim', showcasing the unique identity and vibrant traditions of their home State.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
ITANAGAR, May 16, 2025