

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

Press Communiqué

Gujarat, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh Diwas Observed at Lok Bhavan

Governor extends warm greetings to the people of Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Himachal Pradesh on their Statehood Day

Governor expresses gratitude to the people of Maharashtra, and Himachal Pradesh for their continued support and contribution in various sectors of progress

Celebration of the Statehood Days of other States brings people closer and strengthens the spirit of nationalism, unity, and collective belonging: Governor

The State Foundation Day of Gujarat and Maharashtra, along with the Statehood Day of Himachal Pradesh, was celebrated with great enthusiasm and cultural vibrancy at Lok Bhavan, Itanagar, on 1st May 2026. The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, Lt Gen KT Parnaik, PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.), along with the First Lady of the State, Smt. Anagha Parnaik, graced the occasion with their presence. A large number of people belonging to Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Himachal Pradesh, who are residing in Arunachal Pradesh, attended the function. The event was organized by Lok Bhavan in the true spirit of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative, fostering mutual respect, cultural exchange, and national integration.

Addressing the gathering, the Governor extended his warm greetings to the people of Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Himachal Pradesh on their respective Statehood Days. He acknowledged and appreciated the valuable contributions made by people from these states towards the growth and development of Arunachal Pradesh. The Governor, on behalf of the people of the State, expressed gratitude for their continued support and involvement in various sectors of progress.

The Governor highlighted that celebrating the Statehood Days of other States under the vision of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative has created a meaningful platform, bringing together people from diverse backgrounds in a celebration of India's unity in diversity. It enables people to share their experiences, understand each other's aspirations, and discuss the challenges faced by communities living away from their native states. Such initiatives, he said, bring people closer and also strengthen the spirit of nationalism, unity, and collective belonging.

Reflecting on historical and cultural connections, the Governor recalled the deep-rooted mythological ties shared with the people of Gujarat, which continue to be celebrated even today. He also fondly remembered the significant contributions made by people from Maharashtra in the social development of Arunachal Pradesh, particularly in the years following the 1962 war, when the spirit of national solidarity played a vital role in rebuilding and strengthening communities.

The programme was marked by a rich display of cultural performances that showcased the diversity and vibrancy of India's traditions. Highlights included a traditional Arunachali group dance by students of Rajiv Gandhi University, which beautifully depicted the indigenous heritage of the state. This was followed by a graceful classical Lavani performance by Miss Manami Gamlin of VKV, Nirjuli. The audience was further enthralled by energetic Lavani and Garba performances by students of CK Bliss, a school dedicated to fine and performing arts, as well as the lively Tippani dance of Gujarat presented by the students of Nrityangan. The celebration was further enriched by folk songs performed by participants from Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh, which added a melodious and emotional touch to the evening.

Adding depth and context to the performances, young speakers from Let's Speak Arunachal, Miss Banu Rigia, Ms Anya Sonam, and Ms Anya Maying, delivered engaging prologues on Maharashtra and Gujarat, offering insights into their cultural richness and heritage.

Children of K Blooming - Early Intervention and Learning Centre, Naharlagun attended the programme as Special Guests of the Governor.

As part of the celebrations, the Governor and the First Lady of the State hosted a High Tea in honour of the people from Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Himachal Pradesh, as well as the participating artists and officials. The audiovisual messages of Governor of Gujarat, Shri Acharya Dev Vrat and the Governor of Maharashtra, Shri Jishnu Dev Varma screened on the occasion.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
ITANAGAR, May 1, 2026