

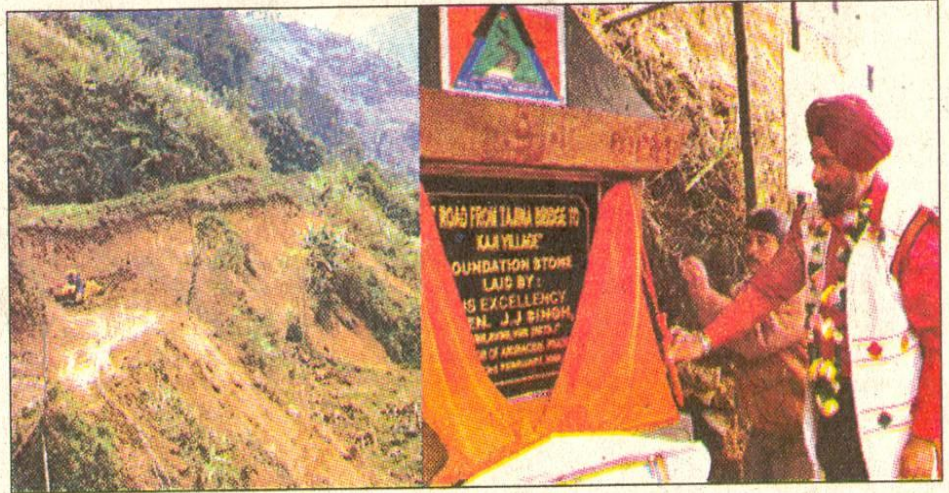
# Guv lays road foundation stone

TALIHA, Feb 23: Arunachal Pradesh Governor Gen (Retd) JJ Singh today laid the foundation stone of the 10.04 km Tajina Bridge-Kaji village PMGSY road here in Upper Subansiri district, reports his PRO.

The road, to be constructed at Rs 718.86 lakh, will provide direct all-weather connectivity to 7 villages, and serve another 5 indirectly.

Since good roads have an impact both social and economic, it is imperative that the construction of roads in Arunachal Pradesh be an example for other states to follow, the governor said, adding that roads would help the state in exploiting its tourism potential.

“Once tourism develops, we can earn our living through indigenous handloom and handicrafts expertise, horticulture and other revenue generating activities. Our exotic food habits and indigenous attires will be



in great demand among the tourists,” he said.

Reiterating his hope to see ‘Team Arunachal’ working in unison, the governor urged the people to not hinder the state’s pace of development through

*bandhs* and strikes.

RWD Minister Chowna Mein, who accompanied the governor, said that by getting the foundation stone laid by the governor “we want to send a message that we are serious about the

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## Guv lays road...

*From P.I...implementation of quality rural roads."*

Rural roads not only have a positive impact on socio-economic activities but also help in arresting rural-urban area migration, he added.

Industries Minister Tanga Byaling cautioned the people against raising land disputes over the road construction, saying the roads are only meant for the development of the people themselves.

Calling for road connectivity to Nacho, Byaling, who earlier held the RWD portfolio, said 30% of the district is yet to be provided with road connectivity because of the population criterion.

ARRDA CEO KC Dhimole informed that as a result of the untiring efforts of the state government the centre has agreed to provide road connectivity for a population of 250 or more under cluster approach. Arunachal stands among the top ten states of the country in terms of proper implementation of PMGSY projects since the RWD, which is the nodal agency for construction of rural roads, has never compromised on quality, he added.

Dhimole sought the cooperation of the panchayat leaders and villagers for early and proper implementation of the Kaji road, which he said will be completed in 12 months. Taliha ZPM Sushil Nalo submitted a memorandum to the governor, seeking creation of a community development block, a new circle headquarters, upgrading of this circle to a subdivision headquarters, and including 8 rural roads under the PM's package, saying these roads are of great importance to the area but do not meet the PMGSY norms.

The governor had a threadbare meeting at the circuit house with all the elected representatives of the district, including Byaling, deputy speaker Takar Marde, Taliha MLA Nyato Regia and Daporijo MLA Daklo Nidak, touching on development activities of the district.

He was accompanied by RWD CE T Welly and PMGSY state quality coordinator K Tabiyo, the report adds.