

## 'Pass on museum power to future'

| Staff REPORTER |

**ITANAGAR, Feb 22:** Union Minister for New & Renewable Energy, Dr Farooq Abdullah, visibly impressed with the state of the JN State Museum, has termed it as excellent and added, however, there is a lot of room for improvement.

The Minister, who was on his maiden visit to Arunachal Pradesh as part of his 'Statehood Day' commitment on February 20, made this observation during his over-30 minute stay at the museum.

Dr Abdullah, being accompanied by Tape Bagra, Commissioner (RD & PR), Tage Tada, Director (Research) and a host of officials from the Directorate of Research, made a round of the whole of the museum and put across his thoughts saying the department is really doing a good job by documenting and demonstrating the traditional culture of several communities of the state.

Drawing a parallel between JN State Museum and state-of-the-art Srinagar Museum, he said the former can really make it to the top once its renovation of first floor gets completed.

Drawing MNRE's attention on this line, Tage Tada briefed him on the state of affairs of JN State Museum and told him that the Directorate of Research, which is now housed next to the museum building has recently been shifted to step up its activities, is looking forward to facelift it adding everything depends on the funding from Indian Museum, New Delhi and Victoria Memorial, Kolkata.

Describing the JN State Museum as fantas-



Pix : Y. S. Wunglengdon

tic while putting his comments down in visitor's book, the visiting dignitary, who also held the fort of Jammu & Kashmir as Chief Minister, emphasized to arm the future of the state with the 'storehouse of knowledge' saying unless the young generation are made aware of their cultural heritage the very purpose of raising the museum will come to a naught.

"Make it a point to bring more and more children to the museum to pass on the facts about rich cultural heritage of the state—archaeology, artifacts, monuments and so on and so forth. Being tomorrow's future, they should be armed with the knowledge about ways and means of numerous tribes of the

state. It will only pave the way to preserve the cultural tradition of the state", Tada quoted the Union minister as saying.

The minister, nonetheless, while making his way out of JN State Museum and his cavalcade hitting the road, was noticeably enraged at the sight of 'mushrooming' of skyscrapers in a haphazard way saying the rise of unplanned buildings is not going to help keep environs intact.

"Raise buildings—but not at the cost of nature surrounding you. Ensure that least or no damage is made to Mother Nature during the erection of such high-rises", sources quoted him as saying.