

## Arunachal Front

Sunday, 20 June 2010

# Holistic tourism takes shape at Ganga Lake



By Special Correspondent  
**ITANAGAR, Jun 19:** Governor Gen (Retd) JJ Singh inaugurated the boat service at Ganga Lake here today, giving shape to his idea of introducing holistic tourism to make the historic lake, locally called Gekar Sinyi the most attractive spot for picnics, outings and boating in the state capital.

The governor wearing life jacket pedaled the boat him-

self along with tourism director AK Singh. The tourism department has procured four pedaled boats.

In fact, at the initiative of the governor a 15-member team led by Lt Manoj Gawli from the Eastern Naval Command, Vishakapatnam, had surveyed the lake in February last and submitted a hydrographic map, indicating depth (highest 9.6 metre), shallow area etc to

introduce rafting, boat pedaling and water skiing to attract adventure tourists.

The governor also directed to put up a full blown hydrographic map of the ovuculate-triangular shaped lake for the tourists and asked Sama Dodum, who is managing the project on PPP model, to ensure safety at every step. About 26 students of VKV who were there to welcome

the governor had a free boat ride, but Dodum said Rs 100 will be charged for each boat ride.

Upset over the delay in power supply, the governor wanted it soon for making other facilities, like swimming pool for learners, functional. Itanagar power division EE TK Tara, who was present, informed that the transformer was already charged and assured power supply in a week.

Instead of profit, social content should be the driving force for your venture for long term gain, the governor exhorted Dodum.

Accompanied with his California-based uncle's couple Ajit Singh Sawhney and Jatinder Sawhney and secretary Ankur Garg, the governor, who has launched a 'Clean, green and plastic-free Arunachal drive', took serious exception to the garbage strewn all around the lake and wanted it to be cleaned immediately.

According to legend, tribal chief Tai Bida, owner of hundreds of mithuns, once decided to sacrifice the oldest female mithun. The female mithun after learning *Contd. P.3*

## Holistic tourism takes...

From P.I...about the plan, left the house and the entire herd followed and jumped into the lake and perished, turning Bida pauper. The lake, situated along the foothills of the Himalayas, is unspoiled nature's trove where myth meets the mesmerizing nature.

Though some activities were taken up after the social forestry and boating complex was

inaugurated by former governor RD Pradhan in 1989, but the myth had prevented full-fledged activities with the unsurveyed under water creating fear.

In fact, the fisheries department rear fishes in the lake, and director Tage Moda was present with three freshly caught huge silver scarps.

The lake seems to have been formed from ponding

of a tributary of the Budhibeta stream during neotectonic activity. Its peculiar triangular shape signifies its structural trauma in the Quaternary period. Abrupt deflection in the course of the Chimpu and Senkhi streams, presence of faults and vertical faults, triangular facets, fault scarps, uplifted river terraces, and active landslides in the Capital

Complex confirm neotectonism and indicate that the area has remained tectonically unstable.

The lake, with an area of about 67,500 mtr and a four-km long concrete footsteps with iron grills built around it by the tourism department for easy movement, abounds in natural beauty with an unpolluted, healthy and noiseless environment.