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Governor and First Lady join Reh Festival celebration

Itanagar, Feb. 1: “Do not get detached from your cultural roots,” said Arunachal Pradesh Governor Gen JJ Singh, while gracing as chief guest in the Reh festival celebration at Roing on Feb 01 last. “Festivals bring us closer to our rich cultural heritage and the traditions. The ultimate benefit of these festivals is a shared experience for all those who participate in it. This reinforces the social bonds between members of the community and enhances their solidarity.” **reports PRO to Governor**

Extending Reh Festival greetings on the occasion, Governor pointed Arunachal Pradesh is an enchanting land blessed with many colourful and treasured practices. It emanates an aura of vibrating cultural life of the tribal people and throbs with the lovely rhythm of their music, dances, customs and traditions. In tune with their ethnic backgrounds and social binding, the Idu Mishmi tribe celebrates the Reh festival, which fosters love, unity and brotherhood. An inclusive community celebration such as Reh plays an important role in creating an environment of mutual understanding and harmony, he added.

Impressed by the enthusiastic participation and colorful cultural presentation by small children, Gen Sing said, moving forward with modernization and development should remain our ‘mantra’, and at the same time we must inculcate pride amongst the younger generations in their very own age-old customs and traditions. Another very important vehicle to carry forward our rich heritage is our mother tongue. He urged upon the parents and guardians to interact with their children and wards in their own indigenous dialects. Gen Singh was also impressed by the community spirit amongst the Idu Mishmi tribe.

Touching on the developmental activities in the State and other initiatives of the State Government, Governor stated that the State can forge ahead faster, if each one of you actively cooperates and participates in constructive and development related activities. We can become one of the leading States in the country, if all of us contribute to the best of our ability and capacity towards the development of our State. He appealed all to commit themselves towards making united efforts that will secure everyone’s future through collective endeavours as a part of Team Arunachal. “Let us all share the optimism that we will rise above differences and challenges to realize our dreams and give shape to our aspirations,” he added

On his arrival at the festival ground, Governor was accorded a traditional reception with cries of ‘Mhehpoh’ or the honored guests have arrived’. Escorted by two guards dressed in Idu Mishmi warriors, Gen Singh was ushered to the main pedestal, where he unfurled the festival flag symbolizing the start of the festival. Adding festivity to the occasion, Governor inaugurated the exhibition stalls of flowers, adventure tourism,

handlooms and handicrafts and indigenous food festival. It was followed by inauguration Community hall and floral tribute to Late Ita Pulu.

Showcasing the best of Idu Social life, a cultural programme was presented on the occasion. Best of the show was the catwalk by tiny tots (children) in tradition attires. Unique on the occasion was also was the traditional fashion by the elders in real traditional attires. Highlight of the programme was Idu Traditional healing system presented by children of Nani Maria Kinder Garden School. Mountaineer Tine Mena was also felicitated on the occasion as achiever of the community.

Earlier on his arrival to Roing, Governor and his entourage was received by Chairman Reh festival Committee and local MLA Laeta Umbrey along with MLA Dambuk, Jomin Tayeng, DC Roing Y.W. Ringu, SP L Maipak Singh and senior community leaders. Before leaving for Itanagar, crusader of Green Arunachal Mission, Governor accompanied by state first lady and commissioner V.K.Dev participated in a plantation programme at Eze breeze Tower garden which was organized by Environment and Forest department.

Sd/- Ing Tayeng,PO