

Press Release No 990

Governor stresses for augmentation of tourism sector

Itanagar, October 12: State Tourism Minister, Pema Khandu called on the Governor General (Retd.) J.J. Singh at Raj Bhavan on 10th October 2011 to discuss various issues which need to be addressed on priority to harness the full tourism potential of the State were discussed in the meeting, *reports PRO to Governor.*

Underscoring the need for exposure tours organized for youth and entrepreneurs in Tourism sector, the Governor advised the Tourism Minister to initiate programmes for capacity building in the service sector.

While calling for further improvement of the tourism sector in the State, the Governor pointed that Arunachal Pradesh has huge scope for religious tourism, wildlife & eco tourism, cultural tourism and adventure tourism. Once tourism sector is developed, it will facilitate in providing livelihood to large numbers of youth and women of the State.

Citing the example of Ganga Lake project, the Governor suggested for taking up tourism projects under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

In the meeting the Governor, also stressed the need for creation of more tourist circuits and home stay facilities.

Gen Singh, who has facilitated the launching of some projects for the State, including State Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology & Applied Nutrition at Banderdewa, the Adventure Tourism Camping Destination site at Jote and the tourism counter at Guwahati Airport for augmenting tourism activities in Arunachal Pradesh advised Khandu to expedite implementation of these Raj Bhavan initiatives. The Governor suggested for working in double shifts during this working season.

Enquiring on the progress of Adventure Tourism Camping Destination site at Jote, the Governor suggested the construction of a restaurant with simple toilets in the area. He also asked the Minister to speed up the work of Tourism Counter at Guwahati Airport.

State Tourism Minister, while concurring the need for exposure tours for entrepreneurs in tourism sector informed that he is proposing training programme for the local entrepreneurs and has kept fund for such programmes. He also informed the Governor that eleven projects under Indian Tourist Development Corporation in Bhalukpong –Tawang route have been taken over by the State Government for proper implementations.

Responding to the Governor's query on the starting of the management courses of the SIHM, Shri G.N. Sinha, Principal Secretary Tourism briefed him that advertisements for core faculties will be issued very soon and hinted on starting the first batch from Rajiv Gandhi University, *the report added.*