

**PRESS RELEASE NO- 326**

**British high commissioner visits Poma bamboo centre**

**Itanagar, April 3:** Visiting British High Commissioner Sir Richard Stagg and his wife Arabella along with Governor Gen JJ Singh and State First Lady Anupama Singh visited the Bamboo Processing Centre, Poma, near Itanagar on April 3 last. Panchayat leaders, Goan burahs and village elders received the dignitaries on the arrival to the centre. They went around the production centre and saw the production process and produced. They also saw the Bamboo Charcoal Kiln, where wastes of bamboo are turn into carbon blocks for other uses such as heating purposes etc, **reports PRO to Governor.**

Brainchild of Governor JJ Singh, thirty odd women are directly benefiting from the centre in addition to many more, who are indirectly benefiting from it. State First Lady on her part advises on designing and marketing.

Beaming very pleased, Governor said, things are moving in positive direction but at the same time people should develop entrepreneurship in them and improvise on their original ideas. What they need is idea and Raj Bhavan is always there to help, Gen Singh added while assuring to facilitate. Interacting with media persons on the occasion, Sir Stagg, who is on a five day visit to Arunachal Pradesh said, I came here to see how this remote State is developing and I am very please to see the ways your Governor is helping in its progress by building on the natural strength of the people and on natural resources. Expressing his hope that such initiatives will have long lasting impact on the progressive State economy, Stagg said, I found the people here very warm and open.

Impressed by the handicrafts produced in the centre, Arabella Stagg bought some items. Poma Anchal Samiti Member Techii Anna, who is heading the project at the village level informed that the produces are sold like hot cakes and many orders have already being received. We are not able to meet the ever increasing demands, Anna added. Later the dignitaries savored local cuisines and drink with Goan burahs and other village elders at the centre, which Governor said is absolutely organic. As token of love, villagers presented Pudung, Nyishi head gear and Nyishi daos to the Governor and High Commissioner and shawl and baskets to the ladies.

Poma bamboo processing centre is an integral part of the strategy to convert Poma into a model village in Arunachal Pradesh, which envisages implementation of scheme from relevant development sectors aimed at bringing about integrated development of the

not only Poma village but all the villages around it. Mooted by the Governor, it aims at gender and economic empowerment of the villagers **adds the PRO**

Sd/- Ome Tayeng, Asst. PRO