

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ITANAGAR**

PRESS RELEASE

**Stand up with changed mindset and empower themselves through education:
Governor to Puroiks**

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Shri PB Acharya accompanied by State First Lady Smt Kavita Acharya visited the Puroik Colony, Papu Nalla, 8 km from Itanagar on 5th March 2017.

Interacting with the community leaders, the Governor called upon them to stand up with changed mindset and empower themselves through education. As a token of encouragement, the Governor announced an amount of Rs 2 (two) lakh from his Discretionary Grant, which will be kept as corpus fund and yearly interest accrued will be used for financial incentives to the outstanding students of the community.

Urging the members of the community to enrol themselves in Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojana (PMJJY) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Suraksha Yojana (PMJSY) and Atal Pension Yojana (APY), the Governor volunteered to pay the amount required for the 200 hundred adult members of the community at Puroik Colony for PMJJY for one year. He advised the student leaders to create awareness on the various welfare schemes of the State and Central Government and facilitate the community in this noble cause.

Immensely pained after hearing to the continuing appalling experiences of the Puroik, the Governor said that there should be strong political will to rehabilitate all the members of Puroik community and make them equal to any other citizens of our State and country. He assured to go through the High Powered Committee reports regarding the Puroik and recommend the State Government accordingly.

The Governor said that the afflictions, the Puroiks have gone through earlier as bonded labourers should open the heart and mind of any human being for their overall welfare and equity in life. Other better communities must come forward to assist the Puroiks, so that they also excel to the potentials and have minimum standard and quality of life. Special efforts on all fronts must be there for the community, the Governor assured.

The Governor met some girl students of the community, who expressed their willingness for free Nursing courses sponsored by Alva's Education Foundation, Moodubidri in Udupi District, Karnataka, which is the home district of the Governor.

The Governor also assured to arrange Bharat Darshan with the help of Indian Fellowship Centre, Mumbai for the elders, women and students groups of the community.

Shri Adang Yachu, President, all Puroik Welfare Society submitted a memorandum, requesting the Governor for his intervention for implementation of the Guwahati High Court's direction including creation of Puroik Autonomous Development Agency, on the occasion.

The first couple attended a community feast with the Puroik Community. They also interacted with the elders, youth and students of the community. A cultural programme, depicting the cultural richness of the Puroiks was presented on the occasion.

PRO to Governor
Arunachal Pradesh
ITANAGAR, March 5, 2017