

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
ITANAGAR**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Governor visits Bhupen Hazarika Setu**

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland Shri P.B. Acharya, accompanied by State's first lady Smt Kavita Acharya visited the Bhupen Hazarika Setu, Dhola, Assam, the longest bridge in India on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2017. The strategically and economically important 9.15 km length bridge was inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

The Governor reiterated that the bridge will not only instil sense of security and give thrust to the economical development of the States of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam but also go a long way in further strengthening spirit of amity amongst the people of both States by connecting hearts. He once again thanked the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet for all the far-sighted programmes and actions for the people of the Frontier State of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Governor pointed that the connectivity bottleneck is a great challenge for the north eastern region and Arunachal Pradesh is no exception. He expressed hope that the bridge will give huge economic thrust towards socio-economic growth in the four districts of Dibang Vallley, Lower Dibang Valley, Lohit and Anjaw

The bridge has started to bring succour to thousands of people from Arunachal Pradesh, who earlier faced immense hardship crossing River Dibang and River Lohit, tributaries River Brahmaputra, the Governor said.

Earlier, the Governor who crossed River Brahmaputra at Bogibeel point in a ferry suggested for use of solar powered boats and double-boat ferry to ferrying motor vehicles. Safety and security of the passengers must be taken cared.

The Governor also suggested for improvising the present day ferry services into tourism venture once bridge is completed. Refreshments and local cuisine along with traditional cultural presentation can be arranged in the 50-minute ferry journey. Such venture will ensure employment for the local communities engaged earlier.

Official of Inland Water Transport, Assam Shri Mukul Borah informed that at present only four spans are to be completed. 500 workers and 40 engineers are working round the clock. The bridge will be completed by February 2018.

PRO to Governor  
Arunachal Pradesh  
NAMSAI, August 4, 2017