

**GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT  
ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
ITANAGAR**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**We need to fight against drug menace head on: Governor**

The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh Shri P.B. Acharya, on his final leg of the four-day two-district tour visited the Tai-Khamti Singpho Museum cum Research Centre in the Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Complex at Chongkham, Namsai District on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Accompanied by State's First Lady Smt Kavita Acharya, the Governor was ushered around the Museum by local MLA and Parliamentary Secretary Environment & Forest Shri Chow Tewa Mein and former PCCF Shri C.K. Namchoom, now Khampti Chief. The Museum showcases the treasured cultural heritage of Tai-Khamti Singpho tribes.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor called for preservation of the rich cultural inheritance. He said that strength of India is its diversity, where every tribe, community and their cultural richness is valued and appreciated. Our youth should take pride in our culture, traditions and dialect. At the same time, the elders of the society must pass on the prized legacy in order to preserve, promote and propagate it, he stressed.

Impressed by the Tai-Khamti Singpho cultural presentation, the Governor gave a token cash amount of Rs. 20,000.00 (Rupees Twenty-Thousand) to cultural troupes as an appreciation and encouragement towards cultural preservation.

The Governor shared his grave concern about drug addiction in the district with senior citizens, public leaders and monks. He said that there is a huge failure in understanding and addressing the issue. We need to fight against this menace head on as it is crippling about 25% of our youth in the district, the Governor point.

Let us empower our youth through right education, skill and motivation. Let us imbibe in them the social concept of responsibilities towards the society. The sense of 'my wealth, my empowerment, my potential is for socio-economic development of the society' must be instilled in them, he emphasised.

The Governor reiterated that educated and empowered people of Tai Khampti Singpho communities must ensure that poor and illiterate people of the society avail maximum benefits from the welfare schemes and programmes of State and Central Governments, including Jan Dhan Yojana, One Rupee Insurance.

Earlier, Parliamentary Secretary Environment & Forest Chow Tewa Mein and former PCCF Shri C.K, Namchoom briefed the Governor about the challenges of the people of Namsai, including seasonal floods, deplorable roads, security, administrative infrastructure and drug menace.

General Secretary of Tai Khamti Singpho Council, Shri CM MOUNGMAU, former Director Accounts, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh briefed the Governor about the council, its cultural heritage and practices. He informed that only Tai Khampti-Singpho and Monpa tribes their own scripts.

Senior citizens of Namsai, Shri Mein and Namchoom recalled their association with Shri Acharya through Students' Experience in Interstate Living (SEIL) in late 1960s, which was launched by ABVP in 1966 and Shri PB Acharya was first Chairperson of SEIL.

Large number of people from Chongkham and its neighbouring areas, along with students of Arunachal Pali Vidyapith and District administration led by Namsai Deputy Commissioner Shri R.K. Sharma and Superintendent of Police Shri C.K. Mein received the Governor and State's First Lady on their arrival at Chongkham.

PRO to Governor  
Arunachal Pradesh  
ITANAGAR, August 8, 2017