

Guv gets Delhi nod for tourism project

ITANAGAR, Aug 13: Union Tourism Minister Kumari Selja has assured an amount of Rs 5 crore for a heliport, as a pilot project for Arunachal Pradesh, after state Governor Gen (Retd) JJ Singh called on her at New Delhi today and convinced her of the massive tourism potential having capacity to generate employment and income-augmentation opportunities for all sections of people.

Gen Singh, who has been advocating promotion of state's tourism potentials, advocated the need to develop heliport tourist destinations along with a mini convention centre, as a concept of soulful-eco tourism, reports his PRO.

The new destination to be decided shortly will be developed keeping in mind the diverse, rich flora and fauna as also by using the local material and habitat conditions as the underline selling proposition (USP) for these destinations. He said that the selected destinations will have wooden hut to lodge 16-20 tourists, who can be carried by a chopper. Tourism is



a viable revenue generator which would greatly benefit the locals.

The governor also highlighted that in collaboration with Cane and Bamboo Technology Centre., Guwahati, a workshop on modern bamboo structures and housing to encourage contemporary tourism low cost complexes will be conducted at Itanagar during August 23-26.

To put Arunachal in the national and global tourism map, the governor advocated a de novo concept of camping sites and adventure, which could be a major attraction for nature and adven-

ture lovers. The camping sites will be built on the traditional cane, bamboo and thatch concept having lodging for single or twin occupants supported by adequate infrastructure and facilities required by tourists or participants.

These sites can be scaled to accommodate more people during events by pitching tents. A rafting base camp will be developed, which will become a hub for training as also will give an opportunity for amateur and professional rafters to enjoy the sport.

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From P.1... The minister agreed to support this initiative and also the proposal to hold an International Rafting Championship at a suitable time between November-February. A food festival of Arunachal Pradesh along with its cultural heritage to showcase their culture and products will also be held at Dilli Haat with the support of her ministry.