

Governor recommends exploitation of bamboo for economic development

ITANAGAR, Aug 18: "I always wanted to initiate a project which will provide financial empowerment to the people or the *aam admi* and today we have here a project of such nature", the Governor said while inaugurating the Bamboo Processing Centre at Poma few kms from the state capital.

Gen Singh further said that about 70 per cent of the country's growing stock of bamboo is in the Northeast, including Arunachal Pradesh, but is yet to be properly utilized while also calling for its proper exploitation to improve socio-economic development.

The Bamboo Processing Centre (BPC) is a unique project comprising of installation of bamboo processing machinery, training of unemployed youths, distribution of tool kits, cent percent buy-back guarantee of the Bamboo based industrial intermediates. The Governor had conceived the idea of making Poma a model village by start-



ing few developmental projects so that sufficient income may be generated for the people here.

The project was jointly implemented by Poma Village Devel-

opment Society and AP Forest Corporation Limited and aims at training the unemployed youths so that they may produce Bamboo based products in bulk for sale to Bamboo based industrial

units. Cane and Bamboo Technology Centre was consultant in the project while Rhino Industries Guwahati had assured cent percent buy-back guarantee.

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While welcoming the guests, Forest Corporation Managing Director G N Sinha discussed the project rationale and stated that this project aims at providing financial and technical empowerment to the people of Poma village. The Forest Corporation had got 12 unemployed youths of Poma village trained at CBTC, Guwahati. These trained people gave live demonstration to the Governor at the time of the inaugural ceremony. G.N. Sinha also impressed the people for taking up mass plantation of bamboo for feeding the industries.

Ngurang Pinch, MLA, Doimukh also discussed the project details and exhorted the people to work hard for fulfilling the dreams of Governor for making Poma a model village.

On the occasion, state's first lady, Anupama Singh expressed her interest to help Poma villagers in improvising local handicrafts.

The programme was attended by T. Milang, Chief Conservator of Forests, Chief Engineer (West), T.H. Tayung, Amit Singla, Secretary to Governor and Planning, Col. (Retd.) J.S. Marwah, Departmental Heads, Gaon Burahs, school children, Poma villagers and others, reports DIPRO.