

## RGU land encroachment issue yet to be resolved

By Our Reporter

ITANAGAR, Aug 13: The Papum Pare district administration's delay in initiating action against the people involved in land encroachment at Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) has irked citizens. The former deputy commissioner of Papum Pare Dr Joram Beda issued an order in November 2018 directing sub-divisional officer, Doimukh to evict the illegal encroachers of land as per provisions of the "Arunachal Pradesh Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorized occupants) Act, 2003 within one month.

However, the eviction is yet to be carried out till date. After media report of land encroachment at RGU

came to forefront in June 2018, the Governor BD Mishra took serious note of it.

The Governor initiated a discussion with members of Nyishi Elite Society (NES) in this regard and sought their invention. He also took up matter with RGU authorities. A team of executive members from NES Papum Pare unit was constituted to look into the encroachment issue by the central NES. The team headed by Techi Tukap, secretary in charge of NES, Papum Pare district visited RGU and held wide range of deliberations with RGU authorities and also with the encroachers. Following their intervention five ma-

ior areas of encroachment was identified in the campus. They also heard the point of views of the people alleged of encroachment and also those of the people who had donated land for the RGU.

Based on the report submitted by NES Papum Pare unit, a firsthand information report on the issue was submitted to Governor on 9 November 2018. The NES in its report alleged that the past VC, Registrar, estate officer and engineering wing were ineffective which encouraged the people to indulge in the act of encroaching the university land. The report also raised the possibility of connivance between *Contd. P.3*

## RGU land encroachment...

RGU employees and land department official to distort the maps of university.

After almost a gap of 9 month, the SDO Doimukh has finally issued an order to conduct verification on August 20 next at one of the areas which has been identified as the encroached land. However they are yet to take up remaining cases, even though the former DC has issued order asking them to act on all encroachment issue. Further it has been identified that most of the encroachers are staffs of the university and it has hurt the sentiment of those who donated the land. "An area of 302 acres was donated for development of university on 26th January 1985. Not a single land donor is involved in the encroachment of the university land. We vehemently condemn the encroachers and ask them to voluntarily surrender the encroached land to university. RGU is institution for future and such encroachment is detrimental to growth of university," the land donors told the Papum Pare NES team.

Meanwhile while talking to this daily Vice Chancellor Professor Saket Kushwaha informed that land encroachment issue is being given utmost importance by university authorities and they are taking help of state government to resolve it at the earliest. "AT present we also don't know the exact area of land given to RGU by the state government in 1985. The original map has not been able to trace. But the barbed wire fencing constructed by state government at the time of establishing university has given fair idea about the boundary. A new survey using latest technology has been conducted in March this year by Papum Pare land department to map the university land. They took almost a month to complete the mapping. We are still awaiting the new map and once we get it things will be much clearer," said VC.

The VC further informed that a map was prepared in 2010 after some locales alleged that RGU has taken more land than actual donated area. However he made it clear that RGU did not accept the new map and alleged that it is a distorted one. Regarding the allegation of involvement of RGU employees in the encroachment, the VC said it is matter of investigation and he would not like to comment more on it. Further he appealed all the stakeholders to support RGU and help to develop it as one of the best university of the country.

Registrar of RGU Prof Tomo Riba informed that so far 10 KM boundary wall work has been completed in the campus. Few remaining portion will be taken up soon after the finalization of issue and hope that the issue is resolved in the greater interest of the premier institution of the state.

1. News published in: - Arunachal Front
2. On 14 August 2019.
3. Type: Regional newspaper.
4. Place : Itanagar Arunachal Pradesh