

# **ARUNACHAL FRONT**

## **Sona calls for preservation of traditional knowledge system**

ITANAGAR, Oct 17: A two-day national seminar on 'Lok Kalayein Aur Shiksha (Poorvottar Ka Vishesh Sandarbh)' has got underway at the Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) campus on Thursday. The seminar is organized by the department of Hindi, RGU in collaboration with Bharatiya Shikshan Mandal (BSM), Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata and National Sindhi Language Development Council, New Delhi. Attending the inaugural session, State Assembly Speaker P D Sona drew the attention of the gathering to the richness in folk arts and the traditional knowledge system of the state. "Regrettably, the beautiful and rich culture of Arunachal Pradesh is yet to be recognized by the rest of the world", Sona stated, and called upon the intellectuals, academicians and scholars to come up with a solution for preservation, exploration and exhibition of the traditional knowledge system. Highlighting the important role folk arts and culture plays in life of the locals, national secretary of BSM Mukul Kanitkar and Prof Satyakam, Pro Vice-chancellor of IGNOU impressed on the need to look back at the local history and origin, and then integrate an emotional, intellectual and rational approach of folk elements in our education system to sustain it and spread it for a universal significance. Expressing the need for a global exchange of North-East folk culture and art, RGU Vice-Chancellor Prof Saket Kushwaha stressed the need to rise above differences and insular approach and work in unison for the progress of the nation. The seminar was an attempt to providing an open forum of discussion on folk culture, tradition and art of North East India and their relevance in the national and international contexts. Besides various heads of universities, academicians, faculty members and scholars of various disciplines from within and outside the state attended the programme.

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