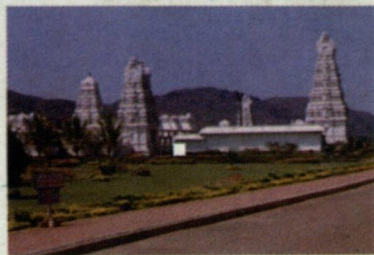


North East General Knowledge & Sikkim



Mrs. Minimon Laloo

THE NORTH EAST

GENERAL

KNOWLEDGE

(Revised & Enlarged)

AND

SIKKIM

2002 - 2003

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INDEX

Sl.No.	Chapter.	Page.
1.	Arunachal Pradesh / Itanaġar	1 - 29
2.	Tripura / Aġartala	39 - 49
3.	Manipur / Imphal	50 - 71
4.	Mizoram / Aizawl	72 - 87
5.	Assam / Guwahati	88 - 119
6.	Meghalaya / Shillong	120 - 208
7.	Sikkim / Gangtok	209 - 234
8.	Nagaland / Kohima	235 - 277
9.	Who's Who.	277 - 280
10.	Important Events.	280 - 282
11.	Important Dates/ Years	283 - 284

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ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Right at the top of north-eastern India, crowning its six clustered sister like a protective helmet, is Arunachal Pradesh the "land of the Dawn-lit Mountains", the abode of sun's rays, this is the first Indian soil to greet the morning sun and by 0430 hrs Indian standard Time, it is brighter than it is at 0630 hrs in Mumbai. Dawn first illuminates Arunachal's border with China.

This is a land of rugged grandeur, bordering Bhutan on the west, China on the north and Myanmar (Burma) on the east and Assam on the south. Evergreen forest covers more than 60% with its numerous turbulent streams, roaring rivers, deep gorges, lofty mountains, snow clad shining peaks, hundreds and thousands species of flora and fauna. Its rugged terrain is suitable for trekking, hiking and holidaying in a serene atmosphere. Arunachal covers an area of 83,743sq km with a population of over 1091117 with Itanagar as its capital.

Arunachal Pradesh became a full fledged State on February 20, 1987. Till 1972 it was known as the North East Frontier Agency (NEFA), it was given the Union Territory status on January 20, 1972 and renamed as Arunachal Pradesh. On August 15, 1975 an elected legislative assembly was constituted and the first council of ministers assumed office. The first election was held in February 1978.

INHABITANT

Arunachal Pradesh is inhabited by the tribals communities and descendants of Mongoloid race, originally immigrated from Tibet and Bhutan.

The inhabitants are friendly and hospitable. They are broadminded, the society in which they live is monogamous, although polygamy and polyandry happens quite frequently.

Divorce and widows remarriage is favourable. They are patriarchal and primogenature.

RELIGION

The religion itself differs amongst the tribals. The Monpas and Sherdukpens of Tawang and West Kameng District are Buddhist by faith following the lamaistic tradition of the Gelupa seet of Mahayana stream of Buddhism. Before embracing Buddhism they were believers of Bon Faith characterized by spirit worship and animal sacrifice.

Noctes and Wanchos of Tirap District practised elementary form of vaishnavism while the rest of the tribals worshipped the Sun and the Moon God namely "Donyi-Polo and Abo-Tani", by invoking nature deities and animal sacrificial.

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is their main occupation, they practice terrace cultivation unlike most of the north eastern who practice jhum cultivation.

Apart from being agriculturist, they even tried livestock rearing like Yak, sheep etc.

SPORTS

The indigeneous sports consists of archery, wrestling, shot put, discus throw, and new games like Lai and Thipi add fun and some exercises in all walks of life.

The Directorate of Sports and Games in collaboration with sports Authority of India has set up "Special Area (Game)" as a centre of excellence for sports and games at Naharlagun.

Sangay Lhaden Sports Academy was established to meet the long felt requirement of sportsmen. This is one of the two sports academies in the North East.

Finally the State Government has even come up with the Arunachal Pradesh chapter of Olympic Association which is affiliated to Indian Olympic Association, with the hope of giving opportunity to the deserving sportspersons to participate at National Level.

HYDEL PROJECT

Ranganadi Hydro Electric Project will be commissioned shortly, with an installation capacity of 405 MW. It is said that if this project when commissioned, it will be the biggest hydro power project in the North Eastern Region.

The foundation stone of energy park was laid at Itanagar. The project is being implemented with the support of the Union Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy sources.

FLORA

The North Eastern region of India, is the repository of an Unrivalled wealth of Orchids.

In Arunachal Pradesh orchids occur naturally in diverse habitats, emerging as the largest region to have the numerous orchids of about 550 species.

Vanda Coerulea - Clusters of the beautiful delicately veined blue Vanda adorned the rich tropical forest of Tirap District, with their large blue violet blooms.

Arundina Graminifolia - The bamboo orchid, a pretty evergreen species with attractive pink-purple flowers are found near the Tipi orchidarium.

Dendrobium gibsonii - Clusters of beautifully formed yellow flower with rich maroon centres and **Dendrobium nobile** - a purplish white flowers grew in abundance on Tipi - Sessa Road.

Sessa orchid sanctuary - 24 km from Tipi abounds in variety of species, which includes **Coelogyne Nitida**, the beautiful white flowers growing on moss covered rocks, **Cymbidium elegans** - the tree borne yellow flowers and **Dendrobium Chrysanthum** - bright yellow flowers with two dark reddish brown blotches in the centre presents a breath taking sight when they blooms.

FAUNA

The wildlife in this State is quite rich and varieties of fauna are found. For example Elephants, Tigers, Leopard and Jungle Cats are quite common.

There are other species like white Gibbon, Red Pandas, Musk and Mithun. Birds are found plenty in the jungle like the Great Indian Hornbill, Wood Pecker, Green Pigeon and many others.

There are three wildlife sanctuaries viz. Itanagar, Pakhuri and Laki Mehao. And two National Parks, they are Namdapha and Mouling.

Namdapha National Park - Situated a few kilometre away from Miao, amidst misty, blue hills along the turbulent Noa Dihing River lies this sprawling tropical rain forest. It was declared as Tiger Reserve in 1983, due to its wider altitudinal variation rising from 200m to 4500 metres.

It is the only park in the world to have the four feline species namely the Tiger, Leopard, snow leopard and clouded leopard. Other species found in this park are the Macaque, hoolock, gibbon, hornbills, jungle fowl and pheasants.

The park also offers great bio-diversity of flora and fauna. The grandeur of this tropical rain forest is remarkably thick and intertwined with cave, bamboo, wild banana and variety of vegetation.

ROAD DISTANCE

	FROM	-	To		APPROX (KM)
1.	Tezpur	-	Itanagar	-	216
2.	Tezpur	-	Bhalukpong	-	65
3.	Itanagar	-	Zero	-	150
4.	Ziro	-	Daparijo	-	180
5.	Daparijo	-	Along	-	15

6.	Along	-	Pasighat	-	80
7.	Pasighat	-	Dibrugarh	-	70
8.	Bhalukpong	-	Bomdila	-	100
9.	Bomdila	-	Tawang	-	180
10.	Gty	-	Itanagar	-	429
11.	North Lakhimpur	-	Itanagar	-	57

FROM TAWANG TO

APPROX (KM)

1.	Zeningthang	-	93
2.	Jang	-	42
3.	Dirang	-	143
4.	Bomdila	-	185
5.	Tezpur	-	365
6.	Guwahati	-	555

CULTURE, FESTIVALS AND DANCES

The people of Arunachal are the greatest attraction of this beautiful land. There are numerous tribal groups that contributed to the human mass in the state. All individual tribes have a rich cultural heritage and the government is making all out efforts in helping conserve their traditional heritage. The society is Patriaechal and Primogeniture. They follow endogamy and strickly observe the rule of clan exogamy. Polygamy is socially sanctioned and practiced by most of them. The entire population of the state can be divided into three cultural groups on the basis of their socio-politico-religious affinities, the societies were casteless and governed by the Chiefs.

The Monpas and Sherdukpens of Tawang and West Kameng District follow the lamaistic tradition of Buddhism, they richly decorated Buddhist temple, locally called "Gampas". The Adis, Akas, Apatanis, Bangnis, Nishis, Mishmis, Mijis, Thangsas etc who worship the Sun and Moon God namely Donyi-Polo and Abo-tani. Their religious ritual largely coincides with the phases of agricultural cycles. They invoke nature deities and make animal sacrifices. The Noctes and Wanchos adjoining Nagaland in the Tirap District practiced elementary form of vaishnavism.

Festival form an essential aspect of the socio-cultural life of the people. The festivals are the mirror of the people's culture, the festivals celebrated by them are closely connected with their occupation. Such festivals are Solung, Mopin, Losar, Boori-Boot, Dree, Nechi Dau, Khan, Kshyat-Sowai, Loku, Longte Yullo, Mol, Nyokum, Ojiale, Reh, Sanken, Si-Donyi and Tamladu. Animal sacrifices are a common ritual in most of the festivals.

Losar Festival : Of the Monpas, which is their Newyear is celebrated for five days, including hoisting of religious flags atop their homes, visiting friends and relative. Butter lamps are lit in the houses and campuses.

Reh Festival : Is associated with the Idu Mishmis for appeasement of the deities, including who control the peace and prosperity of the people. The festival ended with great fanfare with the performance of the priest dance which is a special attraction.

Ojiale : The Wanchos celebrated their most popular festival Ojiale during March-april, for a period from six to twelve days interspersed with prayer, songs and dances. Villagers exchanged bamboo tubes of rice beer as a mark of greeting and goodwill. Pig's skin is offered to the village chief as a mark of respect.

Tamladu : Is another important festival, essentially celebrated by the Digaru Mishmis tribe by offering prayers to the God of Earth and Waters for protection against natural calamities. The supreme-Lord Jebmalu, is worshipped for prosperity and welfare of human beings, the standing crops and domestic animals.

Khan Festival : Is a ceremony whereby the priest ties a piece of wool around everybody's neck, the belief is that the enchanted thread will bring good luck to each one of them, it also signify an occasion for the reunion of the people.

Mopin Festival : Is celebrated for wealth, prosperity, good health and universal happiness. Smearing rice powder on each other faces. marks the beginning of the festival which is celebrated for 5 days.

Dances form a vital element in the zest and joy of living of the tribals, they vary from highly stylised religious dance dramas of the Buddhists to the martial steps and colourful performance of the Noctes and Wanchos. During a dance, the people put on their best traditional costumes, decorate their spears and daos, paint new designs and adorn themselves with multicoloured beads and ornaments. The dances performed by the tribes can be broadly divided into four groups:

Ritual, Festive, Recreational and Pantomine.

Ritual dances form part of the rite performed to secure prosperity of the community, to reap a good harvest, to seek peace for a departed soul or to promote fertility. Festive dances form recreational part of the people during festival. Recreational dances are performed on occasions to inspire the participants to express their mirth through gay rhythms. Pantomimes or dance-dramas narrate a mythical story or illustrate a moral and are mainly educative in purpose.

The tribal society is dominating by myths and fictions, in one of the stories, Earth and Sky are looked upon as lovers. In a Singpho story, God uses rainbow as the ladder to meet his wife on the moon. Adi stories are dominated by Wiyu spirit who exercise great influence on human life. The stories of Monpas usually have a moral.

NAME OF THE TRIBE	NAME OF THE DANCE
Adi	Ponung, Taapu, Eme-relo, Boi-take, Yakjong etc.
Aka	Niechu dou, Dogoh dou.
Apatani	Paktu-Itu, Demindu, Busidu or Amualu, Taktamo, Haruk Handu etc.
Hill Miri	Boyen or Kuba Tondone, Pojuh, Nitin, Ponung.
Khamti	Kakong Tokai, Kachang Aluwang, Ka-Fifai dance drama, Ka-Mukcho.
Khamba	Troh, Guru Chanji Pantomine, Pado or Sethoh Pantomime.
Howa	Gasisiu, Clown etc.

Miji	Dumai, Jei etc.
Mishmi	Idu, Ah-ih, Mesala, Digaru-Beeiya, Nuiya
Memba	Broh dance, Bardo pantomime.
Monpa	Yak, Lion & Peacock, Sonyi-yalo, Deer pantomime, Ajilamu pantomime, Broh and other monastic dances.
Nishing	Rikhambada, Northon, Buiya Sodan etc.
Nocte	Laku Bawang, Mang buong, Ramvan buong etc.
Singpho	Manglup ceremony and dances.
Sherdukpen	Jam or Bardo, Yak pantomime, Jik Charm or Seeh pantomime, Brohpu, etc.
Tagin	Si-Ome, Nibutamu dance etc.
Thangsa	Moh festival dance, Sapoloso dance.
Wancho	Ozele, Hambowshon.

The Ponung : dance of the Adis is a folk dance performed before harvesting by teams of young girls in perfect rhythmic unison. It is a women's dance led by Miri, a man adept in mythical songs about the origin of paddy and other crops.

The Taapu : Ia a war dance of the Adis based on the myth of a struggling life of Tani (man) for survival, who was once attacked by his enemies who wanted to crush his supremacy, but with the grace of his divine protectors Doying Bote and Kiine Naane he was saved from peril by Gumin soying who was appointed as his guardian by his divine protectors. As advised by his saviour, Tani started the performance of Taapu dance in order to drive out the evils.

Eme-Relo : This is a traditional folk dance of the Gallong Adis. The dance is usually performed by the young girls after collecting fish from the river bank for community feast organised on various socio-cultural occasion.

Boi Take : Is the name of a bird which eats and destroys the paddy. The dance depicts the action and movement of the bird. This dance is popular among the womenfolk of the Adis of West Siang District. Through this dance the Womenfolk pray to the goddess of paddy.

for safety and protection of crops. This dance is specially performed during the celebration of Yullo, a traditional worship of Donyi-Polo (Sun-Moon cult).

Yakjong : Is the dance of children in Aaran festival, the Newyear festival of the Adis. To welcome the newyear and spread the message, the children goes round the village from house to house collecting rice, meat, etc. for feast after the festival. Whoever welcomes the Yakjong group dancer they were blessed for a bumper crops.

Beesu-Naayi : Is a monkey dance based on myth that there were four brothers - Niinur Bote (a blacksmith), Rabo (an evil spirit), Tani (man) and Beesung (monkey) sons of Pedong Naane. There were great secret enmity between the brothers, where Beesung killed Niinur Bote secretly with an arrow on instigation from Rabo.

Kacheng Aluwang : Is a traditional folk dance of the Khamptis of Lohit District. The dance is usually performed during the time of various festivals, the dance depicts their traditional way of receiving a guest.

Kakong Tokai : Is a traditional dance of the Khamptis of Lohit District. The dance usually performed to welcome the guest and VIP's on various occasions and festivals. This dance depicts Cock fight.

Nechi Dau : Is a happy dance performed by the Aka youths of West Kameng, who sings and dance collectively glorifying the beauty of flowers and omnipotence of the creator.

Pakhu Itu : Is the dance of the Apatanis who lived in the scenic Ziro plateau known for paddy cultivation, who believed that their first paddy seedlings were gifted to them by the wife of their forefather "Abotani", they also believed that the sown seedlings were in danger of being eaten by the three birds Pakku, Parii and Pagi Yaru. This dance depicts the games played between these birds, and children engaged to protect the seedlings.

Daminda : Is the famous dance of the Apatanis, performed during the Dree festival, celebrating the beginning of rice planting season when the people pray for good harvest and protection from natural calamities.

Si-Ome : This is a popular folk dance of the Tagins of Upper Subansiri District. The dance is generally performed by the women folk during their Si Sonyi festival. The song accompanied by the dance is a prayer to the goddess for bountiful crops.

Rikhampada : Is a medley of dance and songs collectively performed by one of the largest tribes, the Nishis of Lower Subansiri District during their main Nyokum festival. It is said that these dances were introduced by their migrated forefathers "Abotani". The songs and dances are performed to honour various gods, some songs are in the form of ballads depicting legends of love which were performed by women traditionally to please their husbands. Rikhampada is one of the most popular dances of Arunachal Pradesh.

Ajhi Lhamu : Is one of the prominent folk dances popular amongst the Monpas and Sherdukpens of Tawang and West Kameng District. Through this dance drama the Tibetan version of Ramayan has been depicted. There are five characters in this dance each having a mythological origin. They are Jalee, the Chief protagonist, Myapo the antagonist, Nyarok and two other female characters Lhamu and Lhamu. Lhamu was a fairy from heaven who later became the queen of Jalee. The dance also depicts the story of Lhamu's marriage to the king Gepu Chong Norjung represented by Jalee.

Monpa Dance : This is a traditional folk dance of the Monpa of west Kameng District. This dance is performed during their Newyear festival Losar to welcome the guest.

Sonyi-Yalo : Is a traditional dance of the Monpas of Tawang District. The dance is performed by both boys and girls to welcome and pay honour to the visiting dignitaries.

Lion and Peacock : Is the dance of the Monpas, the lion dance symbolises that prosperity comes when there is complete harmony and co-operation between all living things on this earth. It depicts the unique friendship between a saint meditating in the mountain and the snow lion and peacock who keep him company and nourishment.

Yak Dance : Is one of the most famous pantomime dance of the Buddhist tribe mostly the Monpas and Sherdukpen. The masked dancers represent the members of a family who has supposedly discovered the Yak, with the help of a magical bird. The Yak is looked upon as the provider of permanent source of wealth and prosperity because it is a multipurpose animal.

Dumai : Is a traditional folk dance of the Mijis of Kameng District. The dance is performed by the womenfolk during their festivals, it is also performed to receive visitors at their village.

Jam Dance or Bardo : Is the dance of the Sherdukpens, who are a small community of West Kameng District who believed that mankind is ruled by force of good and evil. Masked dancers danced to the accompaniment of drums and cymbals, believing they can vanquish the evil spirits through the medium of this Jam dance.

Ah-Ih dance : Is a popular priest dance of the Idu Mishmis of Dibang Valley District. The dance depicts the action of the priest who with his divine power tries to discover the cause of sickness of a person and seek solution for its cure. He performed the necessary rites and sacrifices.

Mol dance : Is the annual festival of the Moklum group of the Thangsas living in the Changlang District. Mol means to dance and the festival itself is associated with dancing and merrymaking. The dance narrate about the origin of human beings and other objects. The God Farah is prayed for granting peace, prosperity, happiness and long life to all villagers. The Mol festival falls in the month of April-May, just after sowing of paddy and before harvesting of millet takes place.

The Thangsas say the following in their Mol Festival :

*Come along, come along, we, worship you
We've made the steps and opened the doors,
For you to come, O Paddy.
Come along, come along, Goddess of Fortune!
With your bag full of wealth and happiness for us.....*

Mesala Dance : Is a ceremonial dance of the Idu Mishmis of Dibang valley District. In the past, it was usually performed whenever there was any death in tribal wars or fighting. Both the victor and victimised families did performed the same ceremony with a view to succeed either in taking revenge or to prevent any such revengeful action by the other party.

Loku Bawang : Is the festival of the Nocte tribe who live in the eastern most District Tirap. The dances performed during this festival are in praise of the unity and strength of the village society. The dance also describes the beauty of the Nocte land-its flowers, forests and animals.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Arunachal Pradesh has a vast tourism potential which can generate employment to unemployed youths of the state. In order to promote tourism as Tourism Industry, the state has taken active initiative in launching various programmes identifying the sectors and create infrastructure. For the first time the state organised Brahmaputra Darshan Festival during Feb. 2001 on the bank of river Dibang a tributary of Brahmaputra and it was a grand success.

The state again venture with Buddha Mahotsava at Tawang during October 2001; which again proved successful.

Arunachal Pradesh is considered to be the largest state among the North East States. Located along the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas filled with amazing splendour snowcapped range and numerous rivers dancing their way into the angler's Heart and on Adventurers spirit.

Administratively, the state is divided into 15 districts, 36 Sub-Division and 149 Circles.

Industrially the state is doing well with medium industries, small scale industries, District Industries Centre / Sub- DIC, Sericulture and weaving.

The state at present has a Hydro power potentiality of 39.52 MW (Megawatt). Ranganadi Hydro electric power generating 405MW will be commission soon, and believed to be the biggest hydropower project in the North East Region. Bomdila and Tawang are popularly known as Land of monasteries. Festival at Tawang is organised by aiming to enhance, popularized and attract visitors as their destination with the monastic dance, traditional tribal dance archery competition, food festival, sight seeing, trekking and others.

ITANAGAR : The capital of Arunachal Pradesh has been identified with Mayapur, the capital of the 11th century Jitri Dynasty. Itanagar has a beautiful yellow roofed shrine, the new Buddhist temple in a well maintained grounds behind a stupa bearing the portrait of a monk. at one side is a tree planted by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The grounds of the temple afford a good view of Itanagar town.

GEKAR SINYI LAKE : Is a natural lake, situated 6km away from Itanagar is a beautiful green forest lake, offer a good picnic spot to the picnickers with its serene surroundings.

The lake is also known as Ganga Lake situated at the foot hills of the splendid and Majestic Himalayas.

POLO PARK : Is an ideal spot for angling, this rivulet passes by Naharlagun and invited anglers.

ZOO : Situated 18 km from Naharlagun near Banderdewa police check post, provides the visitors beautiful glimpses of uncommon Himalayan fauna.

ZOOLOGICAL PARK : Situated about 6km from Itanagar, is a mimiature zoo, well kept and clean, offering exhilarating joy to visitors watching famous Sunderban. Bengal Tigers, Slithering Pythons and Spine chilling Crocodiles beside Vultures, Peacock, Monkeys, Birds etc.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU STATE MUSEUM : Situated within the vicinity of Itanagar town is worth visiting. Display maps of fine art works highlighte the Inhabitants, types of Houses, Festival, Dances,

Historical Archeological and many others. The Museum is also enriched by the portable miniature diorama projecting aspects of life and culture of different tribes beside ethnographic.

TUPI : Is the orchid research Centre in West Kameng District, generally known as the Tipi Orchidarium, is a glass house with over 7500 orchids, is worth visiting.

In addition to this orchidarium, two more orchid conservation sanctuaries was established at Sessa and Dirang for conserving some rare orchids which has been classified as endangered.

Tipi situated 7km approximately from Bhalukpong on Bomdila Road really boast a good collection of orchids.

ZIRO : Is the Headquarter of Lower Subansiri District, situated at one end of a narrow valley hemmed in by low, pine-clad hills. Ziro resembles certain parts of Kashmir, it is ideal for trekking and hiking, there is limitless adventure awaiting the trekker. Ziro also offers the tourist to visit the Tarin fish farm (a high altitude fish farm), Pine and Bamboo Groves, Craft centre, orchid garden, Tale valley, Parsi-Parlo archeological site etc.

Situated at a height of about 9754 ft, it is also known as the Apatani plateau, famous for its paddy cum fish farms, and endowed with rich flora and fauna.

Ziro has an area of 10,135 sq kms. Tale valley 30km from Ziro, standing at the height of 10,000 ft, is considered to be the Highest Peak in Ziro.

PASIGHAT : Is the Headquarter of East Siang District, situated on the right bank of River Siang, Siang is the name of river Brahmaputra in Arunachal. There's a beautiful sanctuary called the Lali wildlife. Sanctuary where wild buffalo, tiger, Sambar, deer and wild Ducks are found in plenty. It is also an idyllic place for trekking and hiking, river rafting, boating and angling on river Siang.

ALONG : Is the Headquarter of West Siang District, situated on the south bank of river Siang is famous for Mithun and Jersey cross

breeding farm at Kamki, 25 km from the village. Offers an idyllic place for trekking, hiking, and angling on river Siang.

MALINITHAN : Situated at Likabali, Headquarter of West Siang District is an ideal place for the tourist to visit the Ruins of a big temple belonging to the 14th - 15th century. This ruin have been excavated, it includes sculpture of Indra and Airavata, Surya, Nandi Bull and Akashi-Ganga Waterfalls, located 5km from Halinithan where people comes for a holy bath to wash away sins. Malinithan also offers an idyllic trekking and hiking to adventurers.

DIRANG : Situated between Bomdila bad Tawang, offers the tourist to visit the Apple orchards, sheep breeding farms, and a few kilometres from Dirang there's a hot spring where people go for a holy dip to wash away sins and diseases and of course to visit the Kalachakra Gompa.

An orchid conservation sanctuary has been established here for conserving rare species.

BOMDILA : Is the Headquarter of West Kameng District situated at a height of over 2530 metres it offers a good view of Himalayan landscape and snow clad ranges is worth visiting, it is also an ideal place for trekking and hiking.

The state government has identified Bomdila as one of the major Tourist destinations to boost tourism industry.

Bomdila has an area of 7422Sq Kms, with an altitude of 2430 to 2700mts.

There are lots of eye catching places within this district like Buddhist Monasteries, Musuem, Birds eye view of Krangte and Gorichan, considered to be the highest peak.

Rahung - Thembang - Semnak - Lagam - Chander - Sangti - Dirang and Bomdila - Peding - Degipam - Gachcham - Jigoan are the most idyllic trekking and hiking places the district can offer.

TEZU : Is the Headquarter of Lohit District, it is famed for its Parsuram Kund, 20Km from the town. Here a fair is held during Mokar-Sankranti, recalling the legend that Parsuram, one of the incarnation of Lord Vishnu, absolved himself of the sin of matricide by washing his hands in this pool. Pilgrims from all over the country comes here for a holy dip in the Kund to wash away their sins. There is also a large lake called the Glow Lake which can be reached on foot by one day of climbing up and down hills. It is ideal for trekking and hiking, river rafting and angling on the river Lohit.

MIAO : Is the Headquarter of Changlang District has a beautiful Mini Zoo. Tibetan refugee settlement weave colourful wollen carpets of various designs. Oil drilling at Kharsang, plywood and veneer mills. Wildlife in the North East is unspoiled, inaccessible pockets of premeval forest preserving rich biospheres, together with a wealth of wildlife. The Famous **Namdapha Nation Park** tucked away in the northern most region offers a breathtaking natural scenic beauty. Three major rivers drain this area and flow into the Noa Dihing, a tributary of Brahmaputra. The peak has diverse habitats and flora and fauna that are typical of this area. The majestic gaur or mithun, elephant, Himalayan black bear, takin, the white goat peculiar to the patkoi range, musk deer, slow loris, binturong and the red panda are all found here. The predators include the tiger, leopard, the rare snow leopard and clouded leopard in the higher reaches of the hills. A number of primate species are to be seen in the park, such as the Assamese macaque, pig-tailed macaque, stump-tailed macaque and the distinctive hooklock gibbon. Hornbills, jungle fowl and pheasants flap their noisy way through the jungle, which harbours others colourful birds species. The inaccessibility of the greater part of the park has helped to keep the forests in their pristine state. The state is also a Tiger Reserve under Project Tiger.

DAPORIJO : Is the Headquarter of Upper Subansiri District. situated on the right bank of river Subansiri is a beautiful village with a beautiful cave located a few kilometres away. It offers an ideal spot for trekking and angling on river Subansiri.

BHALUKPUNG : An angler's paradise, nestled between lush rain forests is an administrative circle of West Kameng District, situated at the foothills of the magnificent Himalayas. It is an hour's drive from Tezpur, Assam.

The gurgling river Kameng has a folklore linked with fishing according to the Mijis. The Wancho believed differently invoking the blessing of Rang, their Sky God to bless them with bountiful catch.

Community fishing expedition is also held regularly here.

Bhalukpung also offers adventure sports like river rafting, trekking, hiking, Birds watching. It is also an idyllic picnic spot.

ROING : Roing is the picturesque sub-divisional Headquarter of Dibang valley District. situated on the bank of Dibang river, as well as of river Brahmaputra, the place has become an important pilgrimage centre in arunachal Pradesh due to its myths and legends.

BHUMAKNAGAR FORT : The elongated semi circle shaped fortress in Bhumaknagar, covering an area of 10Sq Km stand out as the oldest archeological site of the state lying 29km south east of Roing. Is was said that the name derived from king Bhismaka, who had a very beautiful daughter named Rukmini.

According to the legend of Idu tribes, they believed that the mythical legendary blue god Krishna snatched the beautiful princess and carried her away in his chariot. They believed that princess Rukmini belonged to their race.

Popular legends and traditions indentified the ruins of the fort as the capital seat of Raja Bhismaka.

TAWANG : The beautiful land of the Monpas, moored high up in the mountain ranges of the Himalayas, standing at the height of 3500 metres above sea level. Fondly known as "The Hidden Paradise" or "The land of Dawnlit mountains".

Tawang also called Monyul, evoked images of awesome mountain views, remote hamlets, magical gompas, serene lake and

many others. Tawang derived its name from Tawang Monastery presents a heady mixture of history, religion and legends. It is a major centre of the Mahayana Buddhism. It is also famous for the Buddhist monastery which is more than 400 years old.

The monastery is also called Golden Namgye Lhatse meaning Celestial Paradise and in fact one look at the monastery on a clear night it really looks like one. It houses rare arts and culture of mahayana Buddhism, the huge and enthralling 30 feet gilded Buddha statue, priceless documents and texts, precious gold lettered copies of sacred Buddhist script. The gilded giant prayer wheels flank the entrance.

Tawang Monastery : Tawang monastery is the most gorgeous monument, perched atop a ridge and surrounded by thick clouds and perennial mist, the monastery seem to be suspended from heaven in an equally ethereal space.

The monastery which is more than 400 years old is considered to be the 2nd oldest and largest in Asia which housed more than 700 monks. The monastery founded by Mera Lama Lodre Gyatso in 1681 in accordance to the wishes of the 5th Dalai Lama, Nagwang Lobasang Gyatso.

Urgelling Monastery : 5km away from Tawang stands the majestic Urgelling Monastery established by the Lama Urgen Sangpo of Bhutan origin hailing from Bhumthang. The 460 years old monastery is the birth place of the 6th Dalai Lama and preserved the foot prints and finger prints of the Dalai Lama for darshan or paying respect.

Like others this monastery also has a treasure trove of many ancient relics and priceless abjects.

Rigyalling monastery : Stands regale for its soothing and greenary surroundings of all types and shades of green like the pines, fir, oak, popular salix, thoza and the rare crytomeria Joponica. Though the monastery gives the impression of being insignificance but the effort made by Lama changing did not go wasted. The monastery turned into a pictureque abode, where silence is broken only by the chirping birds and wind rustling trees. The monastery is worth visiting.

Taksang Monastery : 45km beyond Tawang, nestled amidst breathtaking surroundings of coniferous forest and lofty mountains with their crowns covered snow.

The monastery is mostly known as the tiger's Den, is believed to have been visited by Guru Padmasambha during 8th century.

The Nunneries : The anis as the nuns are called to join the monk life voluntarily. It is not necessary or compulsion for them to embrace the rigorous hermit life of a monk, if they do not like. There are few nunneries in the around Tawang.

Brama Dungchung Gompa : Is the oldest of the ani gompa, commissioned by Lama Karchen Yeshe Gelek in 1595, which housed 45 men and is only 12 km away from Tawang is worth visiting.

Gyangong Ani Gompa: Situated on a hillock at the distance of 5km from Tawang; It houses 50 inmates and is surrounded by pristine beauty all round, is worth visiting.

Singsur Ani Gompa: Built by Rev.Gonpaste Rinpoche, it is the home of about 45 nuns and lies at a distance of about 28kms away from Tawang. The Gompi is worth visiting.

Gorsan Chorten: Situated about 92kms away from Tawang, located at Zemingthang. This stupa is beautiful to look at looming high into the sky, it was constructed during 12th century and is considered to be the largest stupa of the area, is worth a visit.

Parvat Ghatak (Ball of Fire): Is a pride of the state as well as nation which needs mentioning. It is a Commando School, located at Bemgarh, about 2km from the Indo-China border. Standing at the height of 15000 feet with temperature dropping to 20 degree, only the toughest can survive, the School is performing the Herculean task of turning soldiers into deadly warriors in war and in peace. The much prided School is really worth visiting.

LAKES

The silvery shimmering lakes unsurpassed in beauty, clean and crystal clear, they shimmer like thousands of shivered mirror under the blue canopy of the sky.

Pangang-Tang-tso Lake: 17km from Tawang, looks stright out of picture postcard or perhaps stright out of the Master Painter's canvas, as it changes hues with the seasons. As blue as lapis lazuli on a clear day, coyly hidden under the mists on rainy days, surrounded by colourful flowers and stark white snow in winter. It is breataking lake worth visiting indeed.

Sangetsar Lake: 42km from Tawang is a natural lake, formed by earthquake during 1950, has bare trees standing like guards in vigil. The lake is serene and beautiful like a samaritan's soul and captivating like a gypsy's eye. The lake looks terrific indeed with the reflection of the azure sky, it is really unique and worth visiting.

Bagga-Jang Lake: Situated at a distance of 10km from Sela, Bagga-Jang lake is unique and unparralled in beauty. The lake seems nythical with stories of mystical sights like candle burning in the nights, apparitions of gompa, gold coins and jewels makes the place more alluring. The lake is worth visiting, who knows the apparitions may turn real.

The Peaks: Observed as the colossal crescendos, rather precarious and overpowering mountains dare the mighty men to climb the peaks.

Gorichen Peak: The highest in the region, the towering peak fascinated the minds of many mountaineers to scale its height of 22500 feet. Situated at a distance of 164km, it is ideal for mountaineering expidations.

Geshila Peak: The peak is not very high, but it is easily approachable, as it is only 25km away.

Sela Pass and Peak: Situated at the height of 4215 metres/ 13714feet, the second highest peak in the region. While Sela Pass marks the beginning of the district, runs through a small ridge and along the high altitude shimmering crystal blue Paradise Lake, but becomes grey and ominous on cloudy days. The Pass meets the travellers on their way to Tawang, has numerous growing tiny flowers of enchanting shades which adorned the Sela pass with ecstasy.

Nuraneng Falls : The thunderous cascading milky white fall entralls the spectators with its unique beauty. Situated 42km from Tawang, the fall is really worth visiting.

Babteng-Kang (BTK) Falls: It is the most bewitching fall, especially when the sunrays lingeringly created rainbows across the waterfalls. The fall is really eyecatching and is worth visiting.

Thingbu hot water spring and Tsachu hot water spring: These two hot water springs are the healing hotspots which provides warm, sulphur rich water which cures many skin ailments. They are located in the midst of a terrain and at a distance which is ideal for trekking. is worth visiting.

Tawang War Memorial: Overlooking the imposing Tawang-Chu-Valley, this war memorial is a 40feet multi-hued chorten like structure that honours the 1962 Sino-Indian war heroes, bearing the name of the martyrs. The most appealing etching in the wall, "How can man die better than facing fearful odds, for the ashes of his father and temples of his Gods: echoes in the hearts of the visitors.

It is indeed an honour to die fighting for the country. Against all odds the soldiers had to fight with antique rifles, but the brave and country loving men in green with fire blazing in their eyes made the ultimate duty bound sacrifice towards their country. The war memorial is really worth visiting.

Jaswant Singh Garh: where stands the invisible sentinel. The memorial raised to pay homage to the posthumous recipient of Mahavir Chakra Award, Late Jaswant Singh of 4 Battalion garhwal, who laid down his life for his country. In the Battle of Nuranang in 1962, during the chinese aggression, he fought valiantly by holding back the invading Chinese for 72 hours all alone before he met the martyr's end. A plaque is put up beside the road in favour of his heroic deeds. The place is worth a visit.

Manjushree Vidyapeeth: This is the only orphanage in Tawang, but the interested travellers may visit the place to spend some time with the children living there. Maybe their visitation will helped cheering them.

FIRST IN THE FIELD OF WORKS

Smti. Sibo Kai	:	Nominated Lady	MLA, 7-4-78.
(Late) Nyari Wali	:	Elected Lady	MLA, March 1980
Omen Mayong Deuri	:	Rajya Sabha Lady	MP, (1984 - 90)
Komli Mosang	:	Lady Minister	Cabinet Rank (1990-95)
Bormati Devi	:	Woman Graduate.	
Shri. P.K.Thungon	:	Union territory	Chief Minister.
Gegong Apang	:	Arunachal Pradesh	Chief Minister.
P. Yubbe	:	Speaker of Union	Territory Assembly.
T.L.Rajkumar	:	Speaker of State	Assembly.
Bhupen Hazarika	:	Director of first A.P. Feature	Fliim in Hindi "Mere Dharam Mere Maa".
(Late) Jaswant Singh	:	Posthumous recipient of Mahavir	Chakra Award

AWARD

The awards for meritorious students was instituted by the State Govt. The two seperate awards was instituted in memory of late Dera Natung, the former Minister of Education and Late Sangay Lhaden Shenga, former secretary Education. Only meritorious students of class X and classXII will be entitled to receive this award every year.

AUTHORS AND BOOKS

(Courtesy: Directorate of Research. of Arunachal Pradesh)

AUTHORS

BOOKS

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dr. D.K.Duarah | (i) The Monpas of Arunachal Pradesh
(ii) Handbook on Arunachal Pradesh
(iii) Handicrafts of Arunachal Pradesh.
(with Dr.P.C. dutta), (iv) Aspects of Customary Law of A.P. (with Dr. P.C.Dutta), (v) Aspects of Culture & Customs of A.P (with Dr. P.C.Dutta), (vi) Impact of Urbanisation in A.P.(Daporijo), (with Dr. B.K. Bora and B. Paul) |
| J.N.Chowdhury | (i) Arunachal Panorama (ii) A Comparative study on Adi Religion, (iii) The Hill Miris of Subansiri. |
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| N. Sarkar | (i) Dances of the Arunachal Pradesh,
(ii) Buddhism among the Monpas and Sherdukpens,
(iii) Tawang Monastery. |
| L.R.N. Srivastava | (i) The Gallongs, (ii) Social Organisation of the Minyongs, (iii) Among the Wanchos. |
| Dr. D.K. Bora | (i) Myths and Tale of the Nishis, (ii) History and Archeology of Itanagar. |
| I.M. Simon | (i) An Introduction to Apatani, (ii) Hill Miri Language Guide, (iii) Miji Language Guide, (iv) Aka Language Guide. |
| Dr. Y.A. Raikar | (i) Itafort, (ii) Archeology in Arunachal Pradesh (with S. Chatterjee) |
| A.A. Ashraf | (i) Pre-historic Arunachal, (ii) pre-historic Archeology of Lower Subansiri, (iii) Madiaval life at Naksaparbha (with Dr. D.K. Bora and J.C.Dutta) |

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T.K. Bhattacharjee	(i) Myths of the Shimongs, (ii) The Tangams, (iii) The Idus of Dri and Mathun Valley.
K. Kumar	(i) The Boris (ii) The Pailibos.
T.K.M. Baruah	(i) The Singphos and their Religion, (ii) Lik-Pu-Can-Lan, (iii) The Idu Mishmis.
B.B. Pandey	(i) The Hill Miris (ii) Festivals of Subansiri, (iii) Musical Instrument of Arunachal Pradesh. (Adi). (iv) Folk Song of Arunachal Pradesh. (Adi).
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Usha K. Singh	Arunachal Pradesh.

(i) The Advancing Apatanis of Arunachal, (ii) The Apatani Grammer, (ii) The English-Apatani Dictionary, (iv) Charung Hullu - A Ritual Text of the Apatanis, (v) The Agricultural Festival of Arunachal, (vi) The Socio- Religious Ceremonies of the Apatanis, (vii) A Handbook of N.E. States and Sikkim.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Two new districts was newly created within a short span of two years they are Kurung Kumey and Lower Dibang valley.

Community Dev - Blocks was also created at Laji and Kanubari in Tirap District and Nafra in West Kameng District.

Sub-Division HQrs at Namsai in Lohit District and Longding in Tirap District were upgraded into the status of Additionaol Deputy Commissioner.

Those administrative reforms were carried out to quicken the pace of development in the said comparatively backward area.

Permanent Bench of Gauhati High Court was also established at Naharlagun on (12th August 2000).

NAME OF THE ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE THIRD STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTION HELD ON: 3.10.1999

<i>Sl.No</i>	<i>Name of M.L.A.</i>	<i>Party</i>	<i>Name of Assembly Seg</i>
1.	T.G. Rimpoche	INC	Lumla (ST)
2.	Thumptem Tempa	INC	Tawang (ST)
3.	Dorjee Khandu	INC	Mukto (ST)
4.	Tsering Gyurme	INC	Dirang (ST)
5.	D.K. Thongook	INC	Kalaktang (ST)
6.	Naresh Glow	INC	Thrizino (ST)
7.	Japu Deru	INC	Bomdila (ST)
8.	Mekup Dolo	INC	Bameng (ST)
9.	Kameng Dolo	INC	Chayang-Tajo (ST)
10.	Atum Welly	NCP	Seppa East (ST)

11.	Hari Natung	INC	Seppa West (ST)
12.	Dera Natung	INC	Pakke-Kessang (ST)
13.	Lechi Legi	INC	Itanagar (ST)
14.	T.C. Teli	INC	Doimukh (ST)
15.	Nabam Tuki	INC	Sagalee (ST)
16.	Jotom Toko Takam	NCP	Yachuli (STO)
17.	Padi Richo	INC	Ziro-Hapoli (ST)
18.	Takam Sanjoy	INC	Palin (ST)
19.	Tatar Kipa	INC	Nyapin (ST)
20.	Takam Sorang	INC	Tali (ST)
21.	Kalfa Bengia	INC	Koloriang (ST)
22.	Tanga Byaling	INC	Nacho (ST)
23.	Nyato Rigia	INC	Taliha (ST)
24.	Tadak Dulom	INC	Daporijo (ST)
25.	Talo Mugli	INC	Raga (ST)
26.	Takar Marde	INC	Dumporijo (ST)
27.	Lijum Ronya	INC	Liromoba (ST)
28.	Rima Tipodia	INC	Likabali (ST)
29.	Eken Riba	INC	Basar (ST)
30.	Kento Ete	INC	Along west (ST)
31.	Kito Sora	INC	Along East (ST)
32.	Tamiyo Taga	INC	Rumgong (ST)
33.	Tadik Chije	INC	Mechuka (ST)
34.	Gegong Apang	AC	Tuting-Yingkiong (ST)
35.	Tanyong Tatak	INC	Pangin (ST)
36.	Tako dabi	INC	Nari-Koyu (ST)
37.	Tangor Tapak	INC	Pasighat West (ST)
38.	Ninong Ering	INC	Pasighat East (ST)
39.	Lombo Tayeng	INC	Mebo (ST)
40.	Kabang Borang	INC	Mariyang-Geku (ST)
41.	Rajesh Tacho	INC	Anini (ST)
42.	Roding Pertin	INC	Dambuk (ST)
43.	Mukut Mithi	INC	Roing (ST)

44.	Nakul Chai	INC	Tezu (ST)
45.	Kalikho Pul	INC	Hayuliang (ST)
46.	Inderjit Namchoom	IND	Chowkham (ST)
47.	C.P. Namchoom	INC	Namsai (ST)
48.	Chowna Mein	INC	Lekang (ST)
49.	C.C. Singpho	INC	Bordumsa-Diyum
50.	Samchom Ngemu	INC	Miao (ST)
51.	Setong Sena	INC	Nampong (ST)
52.	Phosum Khimhun	INC	Changlang South (ST)
53.	Thinghap Taiju	INC	Changlang North (ST)
54.	Wangki Lowang	NCP	Namsang (ST)
55.	T.L. Rajkumar	INC	Khonsa East (ST)
56.	Thajam Aboh	INC	Khonsa West (ST)
57.	Lowangsha Wanglat	INC	Borduria-Bogapani (ST)
58.	Newlai Tingkhatra	INC	Kanubari (ST)
59.	Thingpong Wangham	INC	Longding-Pumao (ST)
60.	Anok Wangsa	NCP	Pongchau-Wakka (ST)

(Party Position: INC - 53, NCP-4, IND-2, AC-1)

COUNCIL OF MINISTER OF THE THIRD STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (AS ON 30-11-99)

COUNCIL OF MINISTER

Shri Mukut Mithi
(Chief Minister) -Finance, Planning, Programme, Implementation, Economics and Statistics, Parliamentary Affairs, Election, Mines, political and cabinet Affairs, and District Administration, Law, Legislative and Justice and all other departments not allotted to any cabinet ministers.

CABINET MINISTERS

1. Thumpten Tempa Public Works
2. Japu Deru Horticulture
3. Tsering Gyurme Industries, Textile and Handicrafts.
4. Dera Natung Education

5. Kameng Dolo	Home and Fisheries
6. Hari Natung	Irrigation and Food Control
7. Nabam Tuki	Environment and Forests, Trade and Commerce
8. T.C.Teli	Revenue, Excise and Urban Development.
9. Takam Sanjoy	Land Management and IPR and printing.
10. Kahfa Bengia	Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development.
11. Talo Mugli	Rural Development and Panchayat Raj.
12. Tadak Dulom	Social Welfare, Women & Child Development.
13. Lijum Ronya	Power and Non-Conventional Energy Resources.
14. Kento Ete	Personal, Administrative Reforms, Administration and Training
15. Kabang Borang	Co-operation
16. Tako Dabi	Agriculture.
17. Lombo Tayeng	Cultural Affairs and Tourism.
18. Chowna Mein	Public Health and Water Supply.
19. C.P. Namchoom	Transport and Civil Aviation.
20. C.C. Singpho	Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs.
21. S. Ngemu	Health and Family Welfare, Science and Technology.
22. T.L. Rajkumar	Rural Works
23. Tinpong Wangham	Relief and Rehabilitation
24. Padi Richo	Youth Affairs and Sports.

MINISTERS OF STATE

1. T.G. Rimpoche	Industries, Textile and Handicrafts.
2. Naresh Glow	Agriculture
3. Lichi Legi	Power and Non-Conventional Energy Resources.
4. Tanga Byaling	Rural Development and Panchayati Raj.
5. Ninong Ering	Public Health and Water Supply.
6. Roding Pertin	Education.
7. Kalikho Pul	Finance.
8. Nakul Chai	Environment and Forests.

9. T. Taiju Irrigation and Flood Control.
10. Setong Sena Public Works.
11. Eken Riba Law, Legislative and Justice and Parliamentary
 Affairs.
12. Dr. T.Tapak Health and Family Welfare.
13. D.K. Thongdok Rural Works.

Governor ~ Shri Arvind Dave.

Speaker ~ Sri Tamiyo Taga

Deputy Speaker ~ Sri Rajesh Tacho

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