

Rangpo Senior Secondary School hosts exchange students from New Delhi

Rangpo, 8th June (IPR): The Senior Secondary School Rangpo hosted the 15 exchange students from New Delhi along with two of the teachers, Ms. Prachi Jain (TGT English) and Ms. Ravijot Sandhu (PGT Chemistry) and the Deputy Education Officer, Mr. Vijay Pal at the school auditorium today.

The students and delegates are on a weeklong exchange programme under the *Ek Bharath Shrestha Bharat* scheme. It is a flagship programme monitored by the PMO, New Delhi. Initiated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister during the Rashtriya Ekta Divas on the 31st October, 2015, to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel; under this programme, every year all the thirty-six States and UTs are paired with each other where students supervised by teachers and education officers are sent on an exchange programme. The main objective of the *Ek Bharath Shrestha Bharat* is to exchange the diverse culture, promote and celebrate and eventually form a bond with each other.

The Principal of RSSS, Dr. Hannah Yonzan welcomed the gathering after showing the guests the school campus and the classrooms. The students welcomed them with the school anthem and cultural dances. One of the students gave a presentation on Sikkim while another student, Aashish Dangal, who had previously gone to New Delhi under the same exchange programme narrated a detailed account of his experience.

Deputy Director, HRDD, Mr. P.R Dulal spoke on the value of cultural exchange and the significance it bears in a student's life. The exchange students from Delhi performed a dance and the Deputy Education Officer, Mr. Vijay Pal thanked the officials of HRDD, Central and State Government while praising the cleanliness and the hospitality of the State. He stated that he was amazed at the preparedness and confidence of the students in every field and admired the aspirations and discipline they held.

The Principal presented a memento to the teachers and the DEO and thanked them for participating in the programme. The teachers said that they would definitely return to Sikkim and would go on and tell the others about the development and discipline of the people of Sikkim.

