

May 23, 2008

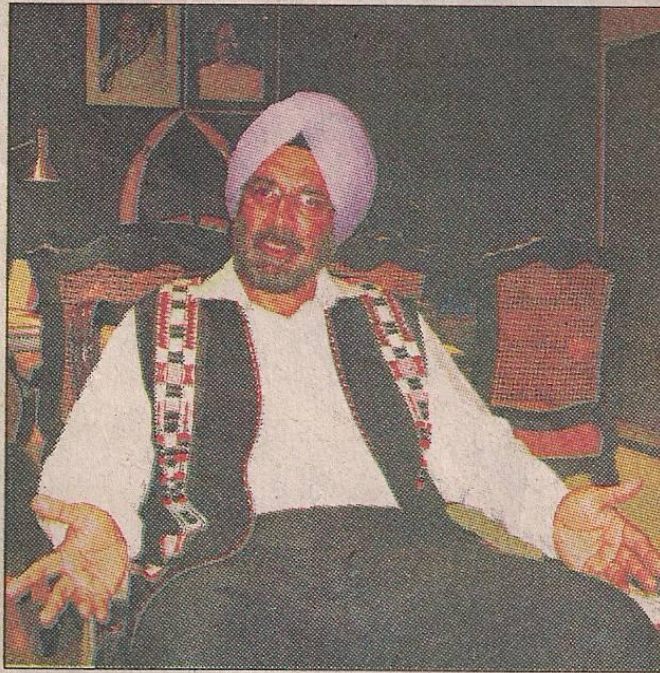
Trans-Arunachal Highway gets NH status: Governor

***Work on airport & railway to start by year-end**

By Special Correspondent
ITANAGAR, May 22: Union ministry of environment & forest (MoEF) is likely to get environment clearance for the much awaited Itanagar Green Field Airport announced by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on January 31 as part of his package, according to state Governor General (Retd) JJ Singh.

Singh told this daily in an exclusive interview this evening here that the proposal submitted by the state's principal chief conservator of forest is being processed by the ministry which was informed by Union E&F Minister R Menon when he called on the former at New Delhi yesterday and drew his attention.

He said the government of India has notified the highway from Tawang passing through Bomdila, Nechiphu, Seppa,



Sagalee, Ziro, Daporijo, Aalo and terminating at Pasighat as NH 229, the extension of NH52B from Mahadevpur to Namchik, Changlang, Khonsa

and Kanubari and terminating in Dibrugarh in Assam and the extension of NH 37 from its dead end near Saikhowaghat in Assam to join NH 52 near

Roing.

As these stretches of highways are part of Trans-Arunachal-Highway, a major package of the PM, its standard and quality will be as per NH standard, he disclosed.

He appreciated Papum Pare deputy commissioner Bidol Tayeng for his all-out efforts in convincing the people about the benefit of the proposed Hamuti-Itanagar railway project and expressed confidence that all formalities for the airport and railway projects will be completed and the bulldozer will start moving in by the year end.

Welcoming the Centre's move to notify Trans-Arunachal Highway as NH, PWD & UD Minister Nabam Tuki called it the icing on the cake of the achievements of the Dorjee Khandu-led government.