

**SPEECH OF HON'BLE GOVERNOR SHRI P.B.ACHARYA AT THE INAUGURAL FUNCTION OF NIATHU SPORTS FESTIVAL 2014 AT CHUMUKEDIMA, DIMAPUR**

Guest Honour Hon'ble Parliamentary Secretary for Youth Resources and Sports  
Shri Khriehu Liezietsu,

Hon'ble Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries

Distinguished Guests, Special Invitees,

Participants,

Ladies and Gentle men,

I am very happy to be with you this morning on the inaugural function of the 4<sup>th</sup> Niathu Sports Festival 2014. I thank the organisers for inviting me to address this function. I have learnt that this event is organised annually by the Niathu Privilege Club as part of the resort's and club's initiatives under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programmes. I appreciate the Niathu Privilege Club and the Niathu Group for organizing this festival and creating a platform to the youngsters and sportspersons of the state and region to display their talents. I am told that this sports festival is being organised under technical assistance of the State Sports Associations and in collaboration with department of Youth Resources & Sports, Government of Nagaland. I am sure this festival will promote sports and games and create a platform for the talented youngsters of the state to showcase their talents and also get rewarded for achieving excellence in the arena of sports and games.

Sports keep individual fit and healthy and also help in moulding and developing one's personality. It is an integral part and parcel to every individual irrespective of ages. It also helps individuals build confidence and teach one to discipline in life. It is learnt that for the first time in the State Niathu Group is going to organize a competitive cycle marathon this year. I am told that The Niathu Sports Festival is perhaps the biggest multi-discipline sporting open sporting event held in the State. The event is also a platform for artists, musicians and performers as the festival creates platforms and employment in all its programmes and functions including entertainment events.

I am very glad to see the theme 'Unity through Sports'. Sports bring people a sense of accomplishment but more importantly, unity. Sports are tools that can unite the people and the government is ready to promote what will unite the youths at all levels and across the nation. The promotion of

peace and unity in the country should be seen as collective effort of all in order to protect and build the nation. Sports were the only activities that would not bring discrimination, tribalism or racism rather; they bring everyone together in love and unity. Whatever we can do to win back love, unity and togetherness in this country, people should do them. Sports should be accessible to anyone that wants to participate, play or watch. It should not discriminate nor set any prejudicial requirements around status, wealth or race other than one having the heart and passion to play.” Sports have the ability to bring unity and peace to a world that has been divided and separated by religious systems, political beliefs and cultural differences. We can unite as the one spirit that we are.

I am very happy to learn that last year’s Niathu Sports Festival was graced by our Olympic medallist and world champion boxer Mary Kom. I am sure; her presence might have definitely motivated and inspired our youth belonging to all walks of life.

I congratulate the organizers of Niathu for organizing such a great event. I hope that such event will definitely motive and inspire the youngsters in the State and also will boost morale not only the participants but also people from all walks of life.

I wish the Niathu Sports Festival a grand success.

JAI HIND, THANK YOU,