

India-Myanmar-Thailand friendship car rally



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Chow Bilaseng Namchoom 22 May 2016 10861 views

A first ever Tri-Nation ([India-Myanmar](#)-Thailand) friendship car rally [2016](#) for mapping connectivity, promotion of [trade](#) & investment and re-establish cultural & historical linkages was flagged-off by Chief Minister Kalikho Pul in a small yet impressive function here at Banquet Hall [Itanagar](#), today. The International [Car Rally](#) will also mark the 25th commemorative year of the [India-ASEAN](#) friendship.

A fleet of [7](#) cars out of total 12 cars were flagged-off from [Itanagar](#) in [Arunachal](#) Pradesh to [Bangkok](#) in Thailand that will cover and explore a distance of 7000 kms [over](#) a period of 19 days from May 22 to June 9 traversing through some of the important cities of Yangon, Mandalay in [Myanmar](#) and Chiang Mai, [Bangkok](#) in Thailand. Rest of the cars in the rally will join the fleet in Karbi Anglong (Assam), [Dimapur](#) ([Nagaland](#)) and [Imphal](#) ([Manipur](#)). The travel route of the fleet originating from [Itanagar](#) ([Arunachal](#) Pradesh) will travel through [Dimapur](#) ([Nagaland](#)) - [Kohima](#) ([Nagaland](#)) - [Imphal](#) ([Manipur](#)) - Kalemio ([Myanmar](#)) - Mandalay ([Myanmar](#)) - Taunggi ([Myanmar](#)) - Keng Tung ([Myanmar](#)) - Chiang Mai (Thailand) - Phitsanulok (Thailand) will culminate at [Bangkok](#) (Thailand). Along with the car rally, business marker events will be organized in countries [en](#)-route to connect with the industry and the common man.

The Department of Tourism and [Arunachal](#) Pradesh Tour Operators Association (APTOA) are the two teams from [Arunachal](#) Pradesh participating in the tri-nation car rally. The rally is being led by officers from Department of Tourism that includes Karma Leki Director Tourism, Tsering Norbu, Hilot Mugli and Takom Kena and the team from APTOA includes Duyu Tamo, General Secretary APTOA, Tadar [Robin](#) and Pem Tsering both members of APTOA.

The first ever rally in the State is being organized by the [North East Federation on International Trade \(NEFIT\)](#) in association with Union of [Myanmar Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industries \(UMFCCI\)](#) of [Myanmar](#), Federation of [Thai](#) industries [Bangkok](#) Thailand with support and cooperation of Department of Tourism, Government of [Arunachal Pradesh](#).

Speaking to the media person, Minister Counselor Royal [Thai Embassy New Delhi](#), Tharadol Thongruang expressed hope that the event could foster friendship, strategic partnerships and bilateral relationship and bridge the gap of trades [policy](#) and overland trading, develop tourism potentiality and enhance the scope of economic prosperity of these countries. Overwhelm by the hospitality of the State, Tharadol said that it is like to be at home when he is in [Arunachal](#) and informed that his people from Thailand will love to visit [Arunachal Pradesh](#) [as](#) this place is gifted with nature's bounty unlike Thailand which had to develop artificial attractions and people of Thailand loves mountain, nature and snow.

General Secretary NEFIT, Mrinal Hatkhowa informed that the car rally is organize moving along with the [India](#)'s Look East Policy and aims to connect the [state](#) of [Arunachal](#) Pradesh and other NE states with [ASEAN](#) neighbours for showcasing the unique tourism potential, [trade](#) & business promotion and exploration expedition. It will be our endeavour to break the mental and psychological barrier towards [North East India](#) and to make it a part of International [trade](#) by land connectivity via Indo-[Myanmar](#) Corridor linking South East Asia and East Asia with the West Asia, he added.

The function was also attended by Secretary Tourism & IPR etc Joram Beda, Secretary Art & Culture etc Dani Sulu, Tharadol Thongruang Minister Counselor Royal [Thai](#) Embassy [New Delhi](#), Chanyuth Sawetsuwan Assistant Director Tourism Authority of Thailand [New Delhi](#), Shangreiso Shimray Secretary Tourism Authority of Thailand [New Delhi](#), Director Tourism Karma Leki, Ravi Agarwal Racing [driver](#) & [Car Rally](#) Official, Mrinal Hatkhowa General Secretary [North East](#) Federation on International Trade (NEFIT), participants of the car rally and officers from Department of Tourism.

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BY CHOW BILASENG NAMCHOOM

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