

**Governor inaugurates 2nd edition of Assam Premier Handball League**

**Guwahati, May 27:** Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria inaugurated the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of Assam Premier Handball League which was organized by Assam Handball Academy and Assam Handball Association in Sarusajai sports complex here today.

Speaking on the occasion, the Governor said that the game is very popular in Northeast India. “I am happy that the Assam Handball Academy and the Assam Handball Federation have been instrumental in the development of the game in the state. Their efforts have resulted in organizing this tournament for the second time, the Governor exhorted.

Highlighting the importance of sports, the Governor said that Sports have a magical way of bringing people together, transcending boundaries and differences, and instilling a deep sense of teamwork and cooperation. Sports make the players more disciplined, healthy, active and punctual. This gives every player the strength to face any difficult situation in personal as well as professional life. It increases the strength and energy level of body and mind. It teaches everyone to work in a team by developing the spirit of team cooperation and team building. More inclination towards sports makes both a sportsperson healthier and financially stronger. This is the reason why the government is paying maximum attention to this area.

The Governor said that Assam Premier Handball League is a great platform for the handball players of the state to showcase their talent and potential which would inspire young players. He also said that there is excellent potential for the development of handball in the country. Indian Handball Federation is making its commendable contribution to promote this sports. Many tournaments are being organized and the country's players have performed well in the Asian Games. But a lot still remains to be done in this area, the Governor added.

Kataria hailed the efforts of the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister under whose leadership sports have been promoted to an extra-ordinary level. Development of all sports are being continuously encouraged through various schemes of the Central and State Governments.

The Governor further said that the country's handball players also have talent and potential. There is a need to hone their talent. They have to be provided with good training and more and more opportunities to play.

Executive Director, Handball Federation of India Dr. Anandeshwar Pandey, President of Assam Handball Association Amal Narayan Patowary, Vice president of Assam Olympic Association Bishnuram Nunisa, Member secretary State Level Advisory Committee Gitartha Goswami along with a host of other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

