Press Release from Culture Department

The North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC), Dimapur, Nagaland, under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in collaboration with the Culture Department, Government of Sikkim, organised a two-day cultural programme titled “Border Area and Bharat Ko Janno – A Chain Yatra” at the ITBP Camp, Lingdum, and the Army Compound, Libing, on November 21 and 22, 2026.

The programme showcased vibrant traditional folk performances by artistes from Sikkim, along with guest artistes from Assam, Nagaland and Madhya Pradesh. The cultural presentations offered an enriching glimpse into the diverse folk traditions of the participating states, while providing a meaningful platform to strengthen cultural bonds, promote national integration and foster closer interaction between artistes and security personnel stationed in border areas.

On the first day, during the Bharat Ko Janno programme, the Commandant of the 13th Battalion, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. On the second day, during the Border Area Programme, Brigadier Upendra Pal Singh, Commanding Officer of the 17th Mountain Division, attended the programme as the Chief Guest.

Both dignitaries appreciated the initiative and observed that such cultural programmes play an important role in creating awareness about India's rich and diverse cultural heritage while encouraging cultural exchange and mutual understanding among different states. They also commended the artistes for their engaging performances, noting that such initiatives provide much-needed recreation and a sense of cultural belonging to security personnel who remain away from their families while performing their duties to safeguard the nation's borders and uphold peace and security.

Earlier, addressing the gathering, Mr. Bhawani Ghimiray, Officer on Special Duty (OSD), Culture Department, Government of Sikkim, highlighted the significance of cultural initiatives in showcasing the rich heritage of different regions and reinforcing the spirit of national unity, mutual understanding and cultural harmony. He emphasised that the preservation and promotion of traditional folk art forms are essential to safeguarding India's diverse cultural identity and passing its rich artistic legacy on to future generations.

The programme was attended by the Director, Joint Director, Deputy Director and other officials of the Culture Department, Government of Sikkim, representatives of the participating security establishments, and artistes from the participating states.

The two-day programme concluded on a note of cultural camaraderie and national solidarity, reaffirming the importance of cultural exchange in strengthening the bonds of unity and shared identity among the diverse communities of the country.