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Art of Living opens free school in Seppa

SEPPA, May 17: Art of Living recently opened a completely free school in Taluku area of Rang Village in Seppa. Christened Sri Sri Gnan Mandir, the school was inaugurated on May 13 by Deputy Commissioner of East Kameng District Pige Ligu.

To start with, the school will admit about 60 students from poor and needy families of the area in KG I and KG II.

The students will be provided with uniforms, books, writing materials, to neutralise any factors that

can hold back the children from poor families from coming to school, explained Pai Dawe, a local co-ordinator of the Art of Living.

"The school will be scaled up to a full-fledged high school in the coming years with its own building and infrastructure. Though the school will provide totally free education, it will strive to provide the best and holistic education to the children," he said.

"Soon the school will emerge as a model of quality education in the area," he added. (Contd. P-3)

Art of Living ...

(From P-1) Addressing a modest gathering of parents and local supporters of the Art of Living, Ligu lauded the initiative of the Art of Living to make education accessible to the poorest of the poor. He appealed to the parents to take advantage of the school and ensure a holistic growth of their children. He also suggested that the school reserve certain number of seats in each class for disadvantaged communities located around the area.

Echoing the views of the DC, Project Co-ordinator Mitra Agarwal informed that most of the students who have sought admission to the schools are first-generation learners. "This is very encouraging to see parents who have never gone to school lining up get their children educated. The response of the parents is so overwhelming that we have decided to start classes for the adult population also," she added.

The Seppa School is the Art of Living's first completely free school in Arunachal Pradesh. The international NGO runs nearly 100 such schools in different parts of India, mainly in the tribal and rural belts, providing value-based education to over 10,000 children from economically challenged sections. It also runs two urban schools in Itanagar and Pasighat.