## Echo of Arunachal

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TEZU, Sep 15: "Voice is our weapon – use it well," exhorted Ashadevi, a well known theatre trainer and voice training expert from Kochi, Kerala as she conducted theatre and voice training workshops for Govt school students of classes 6 to 12 at Bamboosa Library, Tezu and Dibang Youth Library, Roing from September 10 to 14. The workshops were organised by Lohit Youth Libraries, with support from the district administrations of Lohit and Lower Dibang Valley.

The three-day after-school workshop at Tezu was attended by students from GUPS TCM, Tezu West, Police Welfare, Govt Hr Sec School No.2, Kendriya Vidyalaya and VKV Tezu, while students from GSS Mayu, GPS Cheta and GPS Rayang, and readers and volunteers of Dibang Youth Library participated in the two-day workshop at Roing.

Speaking to students, volunteers, teachers and parents, Ashadevi, a patron of Lohit Youth Libraries, said: "The workshops aim to give students an ability to use their voice rightfully, bridging the gaps of communication. It would help them immensely to improve their self-confidence and classroom learning."

Various fun activities were included to help students to overcome their insecurities and build up a rapport with strangers.

Expressing their happiness, Mousam Lama and Auli Mili, students of GSS Mayu, Roing said, "We're overwhelmed! We had never attended such programmes before. We'll try to keep up with library activities from now."

Ashadevi was a part of the team of patrons of Youth Libraries visiting eastern Arunachal. V M Deepa, the team leader and award-winning docu filmmaker on environment, gave a talk cum video show on "Climate Change: present & future for our young" at the Denning College for Teacher Education, Tezu.

Sona and Minija, bankers, gave a very interesting talk "Know your Currency" for senior students of VKV Sunpura. At Roing, the team had an active interaction session with Laane SHG members who shared how they have been evolving with time and becoming self-sufficient.

Bethem Marai, senior library volunteer said the people of Lohit and Dibang are grateful to the guests for coming all the way from Kerala to Arunachal at their expense and providing exposure to our youth on theatre skills and a range of other fields. She also thanked DCs of Tezu and Roing for their ready support to the youth library activities.