

J. P. RAJKHOWA
Governor
Arunachal Pradesh



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**MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
SHRI JYOTI PRASAD RAJKHOWA FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY, 2015.**

My dear Brothers, Sisters and Elderly friends of Arunachal Pradesh,

On the happy and momentous occasion of the 69th Independence Day, on 15th August, 2015, I have the proud privilege to extend my Warmest Greetings and Best Wishes to all of you. I also take this opportunity to convey my Best Wishes to the entire North East Fraternity and to my fellow Indians across the Globe.

I join the Nation in paying our rich tributes to the Freedom Fighters and Martyrs, who dedicated and sacrificed their lives, in their own unique ways for attaining freedom of our Country, from the shackles of foreign domination. In particular, we remember with gratitude our Great Freedom Fighters like Jhansi Rani Lakshmibai, Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Lala Lajpat Rai, Sardar Bhagat Singh, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Rajguru, Jai Prakash Narayan, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Abul Kalam Azad, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, and from the North East, Kanaklata Barua of Assam, Bir Tikendrajit of Manipur, Rani Gaidinliu, famous Naga leader and Matmur Jamoh of Arunachal Pradesh and numerous other Freedom Fighters across the Country. 15th August commemorates the birth of the World's largest democracy, which within a period of only 69 years as an Independent Nation, has been able to establish itself as one of the most powerful ones both economically as well as militarily.

Our Freedom Fighters, the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi in particular, had a vision to make India a progressive, peaceful, secular and developed Country, devoid of casteism, communalism, social inequality; corruption free, free of all kinds of discrimination based on peaceful co-existence of all the people across the sub-continent, committed to brotherhood and non-violence. Equitable development and distribution of wealth among the people in a rational manner in the vast rural areas through integrated agricultural practices, cottage, village khadi and small industries were focussed as priority area. The Policy Planners and the Government had placed the emphasis on development of major and heavy industries, together with infrastructure development projects in the field of road, railways, water transport, air transport and power sector thermal, hydel, nuclear and non-conventional sources like solar power, wind power, sea waves etc. apart from thrust on research and development in the key sectors. These have made our Country an emerging economic Super Power in the World, which has become possible due to our commitment to democracy, with decentralisation of the functions up to the village level.

The present Government at the Centre headed by our humble and dynamic Prime Minister Shri Narendra Damodardas Modi, which captured power with a massive mandate from the people of India, has launched numerous people-friendly Schemes over a period of hardly more than a year, for benefiting millions of our countrymen. Some thrust areas are ensuring dignity of labour, Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India-Green India), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Sukanya Samridhhi Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, Mudra Bank, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan

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Jyoti Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Transparent and Corruption Free Government, Skill India, Educate India, Mission Indra dhanush, Digital India, Strong India for a Secure India, Relief in Times of Need, Friendship on Equal Footing, Development of North East, Power For All, Minimum Government Maximum Governance, Cooperative Federalism etc.

Most of these Schemes have to be implemented by the respective State Governments, mainly with funding from the Central Government but with State participation as well. Our State of Arunachal Pradesh has been a late starter in joining the development process, as the State was created only in 1987. Our State is also one of the most beautiful and fascinating States in the Country. It is one of the most mystifying regions in the world with pristine nature, colourful tribes and sub-tribes with their colourful and exquisitely designed costumes, arts and crafts, demonstrating rich heritage through many dance forms, folk-lores, music and songs and unique agri/ horticultural practices including fish cum paddy culture. Our State has numerous rivers and springs, rich wildlife-different kinds of animals and birds' species, reptiles, orchids, wild flowers and what not. While the State Government has been trying its best to develop the State from all fronts, with focus on the youth power, still it has to do a lot in collaboration with the Central government for development of infrastructure in the fields of connectivity, through roads, railways, water ways, and airways, besides drastic improvement in mobile, telephone and internet connectivity. Major projects for improving road and railway connectivity, on prioritised basis are being taken up by the State Government and the Central Government in the spirit of Cooperative Federalism. Our State has immense potential for harnessing hydel power, which should be done without disturbing the eco-system and livelihood of the people and also their displacement, keeping in mind the downstream impact as well. The State Government has rightly given thrust on development of tourism, horticulture and tea plantation, rubber plantation, fruits like kiwi, orange, passion etc. for preservation of the bio-diversity enhancing of forest coverage to 85%. Apart from the Central Schemes, the State Government headed by Chief Minister, Nabam Tuki has targeted creation of 30,000 jobs for the unemployed, skill development programme, launching of VIDYA – a flagship programme to encourage education of the girl child, encouragement of rubber/ tea cultivation, further push to kiwi, orange, large cardamom cultivation, alternative livelihood Schemes in opium affected areas, setting up of Rehabilitation and Anti-Addiction Centre etc. Swachh Arunachal Mission has also been launched.

For taking the State forward along the road to progress to bring it to the National level in all areas, all of us have to work very hard, with commitment and dedication, and a high sense of patriotism and developing work culture, by emulating from the life, preaching and practices of our Great Freedom Fighters.

Let us all join hands together to work for sustainable development of the State of Arunachal Pradesh, with equal opportunities for one and all and with special consideration for the weaker sections-the girl child, the women, the physically challenged and otherwise able persons. Let us work towards a responsive, accountable, people friendly, efficient, effective and progressive Society committed to peaceful and non-violent means for resolving the differences. While Arunachal Pradesh is one of the most

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peaceful States in the Country, for which both the people and the Government deserve appreciation, the areas of concern like drug and opium addiction, underground activities in a few districts, inadequacy of health and educational facilities in many areas, and livelihood issues in villages adjacent to the international borders need to be addressed.

I am very happy to note that our Arunachalee boys and girls have been performing extremely well in the field of sports, athletics, mountaineering and other forms of adventures. I hope the youths would also strive their best for success in different areas and bring many more laurels to our State. I take this opportunity to applaud our progressive farmers, artists, educationists, entrepreneurs, sports persons, media persons, social workers, doctors, engineers etc. for their notable contribution towards the development of the State. I also offer my greeting to all Arunachalees performing well in various all India competitive examinations including the Civil Services Exams.

On this auspicious occasion, let us re-dedicate ourselves to the cause of democracy, to the cause of one powerful India, to the cause of a happy and prosperous Arunachal Pradesh. Let us all commit ourselves to strive hard for safety and security of all citizens, insulating them against any possible external aggression and internal lawlessness or disturbances.

Finally, once again, I wish the very best to all of you and hope and believe that with all of us joining hands together, we would make our beautiful State, one of the most progressive and developed States in the Country, in near future.

Jai Arunachal Pradesh, Jai Hind!

14/08/2015
(J. P. Rajkhowa)