



**ADDRESS**

**BY**

**Shri Jyoti Prasad Rajkhowa, IAS**

**GOVERNOR**

**OF**

**ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

**IN**

**THE SEVENTH SESSION**

**OF**

**THE SIXTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**ON**

**25<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**AT**

**STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, NAHARLAGUN**

**Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker  
and Hon'ble Members**

I convey my warm greeting to you all for an eventful 2016. Last few months were filled with action that brought us to this new juncture. In a democracy, peaceful political dialogues, debates, discussions, dissents combined with actions for reaching newer heights of dedicated public service are inevitable since democracy within Indian context is still an evolutionary process. I am proud that the legislators of Arunachal Pradesh have risen to the occasion by shedding the lines of caste, creed and community and made positive changes possible within the framework of Constitution, law and decency. I am hopeful that these endeavors bear fruits for the public at large.

2. I was delighted to hear from the Hon'ble Chief Minister that this Government has to be referred not as "My Government" but as "Our Government". Commencing from the city States of Greece to the large sized democracies like India and USA of modern day, the contours of Constitutional democracy have undergone revolutionary changes under public pressure. Popular Governments can no more be shrouded in secrecy. Though representative in character and though people's representatives assemble in legislatures and work, debate and make laws, people would like to participate in governance on a day-to-day basis. I therefore accept the Hon'ble Chief Minister's suggestion to call this Government as "our Government" so that Government formally includes both "representatives of people" and "people themselves".

This new dimension is thought provoking as also very interesting. When democracy used to be defined, it used to be defined as the “Government of the people, for the people and by the people”. Today, the words “by the people” have taken a lead in the definition.

3. This session will be a short one. I had summoned it for the following limited purposes:

- (i) To deliver this Address of mine which is a Constitutional obligation;
- (ii) Election of the Speaker;
- (iii) Motion of Confidence in the Council of Ministers headed by Shri Kalikho Pul as the new Chief Minister who has to prove majority in the House; and
- (iv) Motion of Thanks to the Governor’s Address.

4. The House will have a full-fledged Budget session in the month of March, 2016 for passing the budget for the year 2016-17. The Finance Minister will deal with detailed financial and developmental issues when presenting the Budget. Therefore, my Address will be confined to the broad policy perspectives of the new Government without alluding to details of funds and finances of each Department.

5. As far as public finances of the State are concerned, our Government shall make every effort to curb financial profligacy. Wasteful expenditure will be identified, minimized and eliminated. Funds will be basically deployed for creation of assets and human resources. A slim Government is always a speedier Government. A flabby one besides moving at a snail's pace becomes a breeding ground for corruption and inefficiency.

A permanent Public Finance Watchdog Committee will be constituted to advise on augmenting receipts as well as on rationalizing expenditure to function as an Emergency Lamp for the Government so that errors are culled out when just being committed.

6. On the developmental front, our Government will make substantial allocations for education, health, sanitation, urban development, handloom & handicrafts, horticulture, tourism, water supply, rural development, police, power, roads, drinking water, agriculture and irrigation besides a host of other sectors and subsectors.

As far as fund devolution is concerned, our Government will ensure equitable distribution of resources – from State capital to all Districts, from Districts to all Blocks and from Blocks to all Villages.

There will be de-centralization of public funds from the capital of the State to grass roots. In this regard, our Government will also undertake a serious review of the fund flow to urban and rural local bodies for making appropriate course corrections.

7. The State is now almost 100% dependant upon central funding. Its own resources are meager. This needs to be augmented in a phased and imaginative manner. The economic development of the State cannot compromise the traditional and customary structure of the society. There has to be a harmony built between economic development and the preservation of indigenous culture. Our Government is therefore desirous of setting up a 'single window clearance' mechanism for encouraging investments in micro, small, medium and large scale enterprises, in the State.

The mechanism for clearing major proposals will be called Arunachal State Investment Board with two tier of decision-making. First it will be a small sized bureaucratic apparatus and at the top it will have a Ministerial body to ultimately clear investment proposals. The investment proposals will be ignited through periodic road-shows organized in national and other State capitals and also in Arunachal Pradesh. Specialized agencies will be entrusted the task of bringing in investment to all Districts of Arunachal Pradesh in almost all sectors, mostly non-polluting ones. The various sections of Public will have participation in this economic enterprise by their empowerment to give NOCs to major proposals before the State Investment Board issues permits.

8. Our Government shall lay special emphasis on “Clean Arunachal”. The Prime Minister’s Swacchh Bharat Abhiyan will get a new impetus in the State.

Funds will be specially allocated to achieve this end. While we keep the State absolutely clean, we must also keep our minds away from pollutants like ethno centrism, sectarianism etc. Our Government will institute a special “Tribal Harmony Fund” for catering to programmes run exclusively through youths. This Tribal Harmony Programmes will be run by the youths in an imaginative and innovative way so that all sections of the society are sensitized by Tribal secularism. We must ensure communal harmony in every walk of our life.

9. It would be the endeavor of our Government to inculcate value based education amongst children and youths. The varied richness of our culture, history and heritage is yet to be incorporated into school and college text books.

An Arunachal History & Heritage Commission will be appointed to compile basic information on these matters so that children and youths study the history, heritage and culture of Arunachal Pradesh and be the proud partners of scripting the success of their own State.

10. Above all, women in Arunachal Pradesh have no gender issues. But that does not leave them out from further empowerment. I am very happy to know that the State Women Commission is performing its tasks very well. Our Government is seriously interested in District Women Commissions being constituted so that they not only work as District Branches of the State Women Commission but also lessen the burden of the Apex Commission.

11. Most of the laws of the State have become archaic. A large number of them have been borrowed from Assam or from other States.

Much of these laws have no connection to the ground realities in Arunachal Pradesh thus bringing about incompatibility between the law and its beneficiaries. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi has demanded from his senior bureaucrats to identify 10 archaic laws and rules, time has come in the State also to identify these archaic laws for phasing them out and also to refresh the legislative regime with fresh people-centric and workable laws and rules. Our Government therefore proposes to appoint a new State Law Commission for this purpose.

12. Democracy, Rights and liberty are inseparable. If inbuilt institutions are unavailable, aggrieved sections of the Society try to find solutions on the streets. Human rights in the State need proper buttressing by a formal Commission.

Our Government will therefore institute a State Human Rights Commission so that people always find solace in times of crisis and violation of human rights could be done away with.

13. Youths particularly who are always in search of unproductive Government jobs, will now be motivated to participate in “Make in Arunachal” programme. Mind, body and spirit must participate through labour—physical and mental- to ensure creation of goods and services. The fundamental principle that not a penny will flow into the pocket of a man or woman without “giving value to the community” for “money (salary/wages)”, is the surest contraceptive against corruption. Rest of the anti-corruption structures is just peripheral. “Make in Arunachal” must reverberate in all corners of the State and Nation.

Any company that invests in Arunachal shall have to employ 50% of staff from local boys and girls and rest 50%, in view of specialized nature of works, may be brought from outside. We will give “Make in Arunachal” a special drive in areas of mining, minerals, horticulture, sericulture, native medicines, power, tourism food and fruit processing, paddy cum pisciculture and such areas where the State is abundantly rich. I urge upon the banks and other credit institutions in the State to liberally sanction loans for such ventures keeping in mind the fact that the Credit-Deposit ratio in our State is one of the lowest in the country. A “Make in Arunachal Fund” will also be constituted to promote productive venture so that token loans are provided to credible entrepreneurs. Our Government will also take up Special Programmes for Skill Development of the unemployed youths.

An Expert Task Force for identifying, planning and organizing Employment Generation Schemes would also have constituted. We would also give equal treatment to all the districts and constituencies from East to West, North to South while sanctioning various developmental Schemes.

14. I will be seeing you once again in the November 2017. My task under the Constitution is to broadly communicate the Government's programmes and policies through this Address. Though this session is short, there are going to be many more sessions in the year which will have rich agenda. Our Government which is committed to a corruption-free Government would invigorate existing laws like the Lokayukta Act and also promote and strengthen anti-corruption institutions like the Vigilance Commission.

Our Government will ensure that transparency, accountability and good governance become core part of every public institution. Public will be empowered to call to account all public institutions through feedback forms, suggestion boxes, public Darshans with Ministers and senior bureaucrats, grievance redressal week in a month etc.,. Proposal is also there for enacting a Bill for timely delivery of public services.

15. In order to take our Government to the door steps of the people, we will like to set up a well equipped office with a few Secretarial staff in every block/circle of the State so that none is required to visit the capital for any work from the Government. The nodal officer in each block will act as a medium between the citizen at the grass root level and the Government at the capital. This decentralization is a must when the State is yet to have proper connectivity.

Until infrastructure adequately develops, we would like to connect blocks through internet. Our Government will specially take up with BSNL and all major private service providers to do this yeomen service both on payment as well as in discharge of their magnanimous corporate social responsibility.

16. With these words, I would like to once again greet you all on the occasion of the seventh session. I hope this session will be peaceful, purposeful and loaded with public interest.

17. Before concluding, let me share with you what Lord Krishna said about public service:

**“The ignorant work for their own profit.  
The wise work for the welfare of the world,  
without thought for themselves.”**

**JAI ARUNACHAL! JAI HIND!**