



सत्यमेव जयते

**SPEECH**  
**OF**  
**SHRI V. SHANMUGANATHAN**  
**HON'BLE GOVERNOR**  
**OF**  
**ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

**ON THE OCCASION**  
**OF**  
**REPUBLIC DAY, 2017**  
**AT**  
**ITANAGAR**

**My dear brothers and sisters of Arunachal and Fellow Citizens,**

I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to each and every citizen of Arunachal Pradesh and the Nation on the joyous occasion of the 68<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of the Country and New Year Greetings to you all.

Today, I also greet the members of our Armed Forces, the Police and Para-military forces. Their ever vigilant service has ensured peace for everyone of us. I salute each one of these great patriots.

I join each one of you on this day to thank all the farmers, weavers, teachers, doctors, nurses, officials for their dedicated hard work and for their contribution in building Arunachal Pradesh.

Let us all pay our rich tributes to our great leaders, patriots and freedom fighters who made personal sacrifices to give us, a Sovereign, Democratic, Socialistic and Secular Nation.

Let us all remember the contribution and pay our homage to the father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhiji, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Abdul Kalam Azad, Jai Prakash Narayan, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, and all the leaders and common people who participated in our freedom movement.

I also pay profound tributes to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in defence of our Nation by fighting with courage the divisive forces. We also remember with pride, today, the sacrifice of Ashok Chakra awardee, Late Havildar Hangpan Dada and Arunachal Ratna awardee Late Dy SP Bomto Kamdak.

Our Constitution gives us the means to chart our future and excel in the true spirit of democracy and liberty.

On this august occasion, I intend to share the vision and some important thoughts of the Government.

At the outset, I compliment the Chief Minister, Shri Pema Khandu and his team for having a very focussed approach and taking concrete and effective steps for the development of the State. I join the Hon'ble Chief Minister in his call for putting the state on the path of accelerated growth and development by each one of us as a part of TEAM ARUNACHAL. Let us be a TEAM in the truest sense and work on the motto of "***Service to the State before Self***".

My Government, headed by Shri Pema Khandu has in place a clear road map for transforming Arunachal Pradesh.

Before that I must compliment Hon'ble Chief Minister for his prudence and sound financial management. The State Govt has been able to clear a large portion of the past liabilities. This has been done by systematically cutting down on wasteful expenditure and following the policy of financial reconstruction. Arunachal Pradesh is one of the first states to ratify the constitutional amendment bill paving way for the revolutionary GST- One Nation, One Tax.

My Govt is committed to the financial inclusion and the JAM (Jan Dhan Account- Aadhar- Mobile) trinity for all citizens of the state. Till date, the state has 13 lac Bank accounts and 8.5 lac citizens have been issued Aadhar numbers. The mobile penetration is also encouraging. However, it is a fact that we have still lot of distance to cover and my government is totally committed towards this endeavour.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016, the Digi Dhan Mela was organised in a very befitting manner. People were educated and made aware of the various ways of conducting digital transactions with the sole aim to move towards a cashless society. I congratulate one and all for making the event a grand success. This movement towards cashless economy will curb black money, check corruption, inhibit terror funding and eliminate counterfeit currency.

The Blueprint for development of Arunachal Pradesh is three pronged with a robust network of Connectivity of Road, Rail, Air and IT. The focus areas are:-

- ❖ ***Arunachal Pradesh as the Organic Hub and Fruit Bowl of India***
- ❖ ***Arunachal Pradesh as the Hydropower Capital of India***
- ❖ ***Arunachal Pradesh as the home for Spiritual, Wellness and Adventure tourism***

### **Connectivity:**

#### **Air Connectivity:**

With the commissioning of the six (6) Advanced Landing Grounds (ALGs) in Arunachal Pradesh, it is imperative that the commercial air service within the State and the rest of the world will be started immediately. The National carrier, Air-India will soon start a dedicated service in the State. My Government is also contemplating on having a fixed wing aircraft on wet lease and connect these six airfields. This can be used for passenger service, medical evacuation and also during disaster situations.

The other areas will be connected with heli service. This will connect most parts of the state with air service either through fixed wing aircraft or helicopter.

I foresee a huge multiplier effect on the economy as air connectivity is likely to boost high-end tourism and also attract private investments.

### **Roads:**

The Union Govt. is ready to sanction Projects worth Rs 50000 Crore in the road sector in addition to the Roads sanctioned under PMGSY (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana). The proposal of the State Govt for constructing a 430 km long double lane east-west highway along the foothills at a total cost of Rs 5244 Crore has been accepted by the Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways. This road along the foothills will form the core network which will promote establishment of industries, which, in turn, will open up opportunities of investment for the entrepreneurs and employment for the unemployed youths. I earnestly request the people of these regions to proactively participate and facilitate early start of the project by voluntarily giving land free of cost.

Four State Roads have also been declared National Highways by the Hon'ble Minister, MoRTH (Ministry of Road Transport and Highways), Govt. of India, Shri Nitin Gadkariji during his last visit and they are:

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| a. Akajan-Likabali-Bame                | 120 Km |
| b. Margherita- Changlang               | 44 Km  |
| c. Daporijo – Dollunmukh Via Dumporijo | 125 Km |
| d. Tezu- Chapa Khawa via Sunpura       | 59 Km. |

### **Railways:**

The capital has already been connected by railways and thus has not only been benefitted for movement of passengers but also for transportation of goods. In the years to come Likabali, Ruksin, Tezu and Rupai will also be connected. Union Ministry of Railways is likely to lay the foundation stone for the Jonai-Pasighat BG (Broad Guage) line and also announce the ground survey of three important railway lines in the State soon.

## **Robust IT Connectivity for the Digital Arunachal Initiative:**

Government of Arunachal Pradesh also faces serious impediments in absence of adequate infrastructure of digital connectivity. This is crucial not only from the stand point of good governance but also from a strategic perspective. Under Bharatnet and NOFN (National Optical Fibre Network), a robust network of optical fibre cables are being laid to connect up to the Gram Panchayat level.

I compliment the Hon'ble Chief Minister for his vision of a paperless office in the Civil Sectt. This will not only increase efficiency but also bring in transparency and accountability. I appeal to all Govt servants to quickly adapt the new system.

I appeal to each and every Arunachalee that all the above projects can be completed in time only if all of us whole-heartedly act as facilitators and not subvert the process. In the past, many vested interests have hijacked the development process for individual and private gains.

In the process the people of Arunachal have been deprived of the much-needed development.

My Government will always accord topmost priority to the State's interest and anybody coming in the way and stalling the development of the State shall be dealt with strictly as per law; In other words, there will be NO COMPROMISE when it comes to development of the State.

### **Arunachal Pradesh as the Centre for Wellness and Spiritual Tourism:**

The biggest strength of Arunachal Pradesh is its pristine natural beauty and that the state is endowed with beautiful lakes, waterfalls and snowcapped mountains. However, for far too long, this enchanting beauty has remained a hidden treasure for the rest of the world. The Government of Arunachal Pradesh has resolved to transform the State into a leading destination for spirituality and wellness. For example, Tawang Monastery symbolizes the seat of Buddhist teachings in our country.

It has the potential of becoming the confluence point of different strands of Buddhism in the world. My Government will work towards a massive investment push for world-class infrastructure and launch a global branding campaign, which would showcase beauty of this part of India to the rest of the world.

### **Arunachal as the Organic State and “Fruit Bowl of India”:**

Arunachal Pradesh is also blessed with bounty of nature in terms of horticulture, agricultural produce and has a special place in global bio-diversity map. It is richly endowed with medicinal plants, rare orchids, kiwi, cardamom, apple, Quinoa, orange that can compete with the best agricultural produce anywhere in the world. My Government has taken a decision to gradually transform Arunachal Pradesh into a fully organic State with strong support from the Government of India which would enable us to realize this vast latent potential through strong investment push in the entire agricultural value chain including cold chain and storage facilities agri-marketing, agro processing and exports.

## **Industrial development and Investment in Arunachal Pradesh:**

Apart from serious challenges on building infrastructure and connectivity, the biggest challenge for our government is to provide gainful employment and attract private investment. This is crucial not only from a standpoint of catalyzing growth and economic development but also retaining a sense of social harmony and peace which has been the hallmark of our state.

My Government has initiated important steps to attract investments in the State with an aspiration to be a forerunner and partner in our Nation's growth. Recently, the State participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2017 where investors have shown keen interest to invest in our State.

My Government will ensure that the investors get tailor made policies to invest in the State. However, for this our land laws will require amendments whereby the law is attractive for investors while the interests of the locals are fully protected. My Govt. is working in this direction on the land law amendment. I am sure, this will usher in a transformational change in creating jobs and boosting economic growth in the State.

Two Memorandum of understandings (MoUs) have been signed during the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2017. One was signed with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) of the AMUL fame to start “White Revolution in the state”. The other agreement was signed with the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC), a PSU of the Gujarat Government, whereby GIDC having experience of establishing and managing 202 Industrial Estates and a consociate of more than 190 industrial establishments will mentor the state Govt. in this sector.

With a tag line “Arunachal Rising”, My Govt. is all set to attract valuable investments in the State to provide the much needed opportunities to the locals to unlock their potentials.

### **Hydropower**

The State shall be generating 710 MW of Hydro Power this year. Apart from this, My Government will take concrete steps to end the deadlock on the lingering hydro power projects which are ready to take off, for which we shall engage the Union Government and be an active facilitator in seeing that the implementation of these projects see the light of the day. A serious consultative process would be initiated soon with all the stakeholders and the people living in the project area. Only where the people are ready to accept development of hydro power, there the projects shall begin.

### **Skilled manpower:**

The Government has decided to create a pool of skilled manpower. The youth of the State are aspirational and want to make their contribution in nation building. However, there is a serious lack of capacity building in the whole range of skill sets, which makes them inadequate to face competition. This is a challenge faced by all the North Eastern States. My Government with the support of Union Government shall establish a world-class skill development institute in Arunachal Pradesh, which would cater to the requirement of the state and the other North Eastern States.

### **Social Sectors:**

In the social sectors, health and education will also see revolutionary changes in the days to come. My government is working on revamping the entire structure and processes in these two sectors so that visible results are achieved in the shortest possible time frame.

The new block of the Tomo Riba State Hospital was recently inaugurated which has state of the art OT facilities. The 300-bedded hospital will pave way for best healthcare facilities within the state. Further, the 100 seat medical college will commence soon. A paramedical institute is also being pursued with the Union Govt. to cater to the health needs of the sparse population spread across the state, five district hospitals will be upgraded to zonal hospitals to facilitate treatment close to the hometowns. Rationale distribution of doctors in the state will be done on top most priority. Doctors rendering services in the remote areas will be rewarded for their contribution to the state. The restructured CM universal Health Insurance scheme will be launched shortly. Arunachal Pradesh can be a hub of Medical Tourism providing high end Medical Education, Superspeciality treatment and Alternative Therapies.

Education is a sector, which will witness a sea change. The first step was relaxing the quota norms to 50:50 for insiders and outsiders as a one-time measure for subject teachers of mathematics and science.

This step was necessitated as eligible candidates could not be selected from the locals despite exams and interviews conducted by the departments.

My Govt. had decided to convert at least one existing school in each district as a “Model School” equipped with modern and latest learning and infrastructural facilities. The schools have been identified and further actions are being initiated in a time bound manner by the respective Deputy Commissioners and the Education Department.

**‘DULARI KANYA’** scheme launched by the Govt. wherein Rs. 20,000/- shall be deposited in the Bank account of the newly born girl child in any Government Hospital to be paid along with the interest accrued to the girl child after attaining 18 years of age is a visionary program of the State Govt. Further, this will arrest infant mortality and track all pregnant mother’s to avail pre-natal/anti natal care in Govt. Health Centres and go for institutional deliveries.

### **Special projects for Border Areas:**

Under the initiative of Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, the Government of Arunachal Pradesh has submitted proposals for improvement of infrastructure in the international border areas of the State to arrest stress migration tendencies from the border areas. The proposals with an estimated cost of about Rs 8000 crores have been submitted in the sectors of health, education, rural connectivity, hydropower, solar energy, public distribution system and drinking water. This proposal which is in advanced stages of approval, will bring about a massive development in the remote border areas of the state.

### **Governance and Administration :**

Despite the resource constraint, my Government has implemented the recommendations of 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission so that the Government Employees are paid at par with the rest of the country.

My government shall not tolerate indiscipline and corruption from any govt servant. Irrespective of ranks, strictest of action shall be taken against such govt servants found indulging in corrupt practices. My government will not hesitate to invoke the provisions of the fundamental rules to dismiss such erring govt officials in the larger interest of the state.

Recruitment at various levels will be done through a transparent procedure. The APPSC by invoking and amending some of the prescribed provisions shall also be assigned the recruitment of other subordinate posts. The Commission shall be suitably strengthened to take up this task in an efficient manner.

### **Rule of Law:**

In the last six months, the state has not witnessed a single bandh call. I congratulate the State Govt for maintaining a very sound law and order. This will be one of our main strengths in attracting investments and no stone shall be left unturned for ensuring peace and sound law and order system in the State.

2600 posts in various ranks of police will be filled up soon in a time bound manner. 50 traffic police posts also shall be created for the State capital. Rs 107 Crore has been recently sanctioned for building police infrastructure.

My government will ensure that the Rule of Law is observed in all aspects of governance in the state. The culture of intimidation and harassment to govt servants by unions, associations and groups that are a malaise to society have also adversely hampered development of the State. Such incidents shall be firmly dealt with as per law, with the strictest possible action.

**My Government will work tirelessly to put Arunachal Pradesh in an unprecedented growth trajectory. I urge all citizens to be patient and contribute to this growth story and be a proud partner in the history in making. I can foresee that Arunachal Pradesh will be a bright spot in the country, with an accelerated inclusive growth, equity and all round development.**

## **Disaster:**

Last year, the state had to bear the fury of nature in form of floods and mishaps such as fire causing untold miseries, loss of precious lives and destruction of valuable public and private assets and infrastructure. I pray to God that the soul of all those who lost their lives may rest in peace. My Government has been prompt in giving relief and taking steps to ensure normalcy in the affected areas.

In the end, I salute all the patriotic people of Arunachal Pradesh who have silently toiled and demonstrated the Arunachali spirit of oneness-irrespective of tribes, colour or creed, standing resolute against all odds and vigorously pursuing the developmental activities in the State.

The dedication and selfless service of the officers and officials of the State Govt. and the Central Govt., military and para-military forces and other organizations working in the State deserves appreciation and I commend them for their endless endeavour.

The public representatives, our Panchayati leaders, Gaon Burahs and Burihs, youths, students, NGOs, friends from the media and all the people of Arunachal Pradesh are worthy of gratitude for their role in promoting and becoming a partner in the development of the State.

My appreciation to the State Police, CRPF, ITBP, NCC, Scouts and Guides as well as students who have demonstrated a very high standard of drill during the parade. The members of different cultural troupes and school children of various schools also deserve commendation who are going to put up a beautiful and vibrant cultural show today.

Lastly, greetings on this joyous occasion to all my brothers and sisters of the State and the country. Let us pledge to play a constructive role and be a dutiful citizen of this great nation and chart a great future for our Nation. I call for the “TEAM ARUNACHAL” spirit in each one of us to build this beautiful state into a dream state.

**Jai Arunachal. Jai Hind.**