



SPEECH

OF

HIS EXCELLENCY

GEN JJ SINGH, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd),

GOVERNOR of ARUNACHAL PRADESH

ON THE OCCASION OF

NYOKUM YULLO CELEBRATION

at

ITANAGAR

on

24TH FEBRUARY 2009

Dear Lt Gen KT Parnaik, GOC, 4 Corps, Shri Nabam Rebia, Chairman, Central Nyokum Committee, Smt Tadar Yadir, Vice Chairperson, Central Nyokum Committee, Shri Taba Tadir, Chairman, Nyokum Celebration Committee, Itanagar, other executive members of Central Nyokum Committee and Nyokum Celebration Committee, Itanagar, distinguished guests and my dear brothers, sisters and children of Arunachal Pradesh.

It gives immense pleasure to formally inaugurate the first toy train of the State here today. It is like a dream come true.

On the festive fortnight Shapwang Yaung Manawpoi, Tamladu, Oriah, Statehood Day, Maha Shivratri and our own Nyokum festival, we can take pride in having the first toy train in the entire northeast. This project is a symbolic reflection of the future that will connect our capital city both by air and rail.

While extending my gratitude to those stood by me, I would like to thank the Central Nyokum Committee led by Nabum Rebia, our former Member of Parliament and his Secretary Vijay Sonam. It was their untiring cooperation that we have accomplished our mission. The role played by the Indian Army, the State PWD, the District Administration and all other members of the Nyishi Community is indeed very praiseworthy.

My gratitude goes in particular to the gallant Officers, JCOs and soldiers of 105 Engr Regiment and to HQ 4 Corps at Tezpur. It is a pleasure that GOC 4 Corps, Lt Gen KT Parnaik and Lt Balu of 105 Engrs are here with us today to be part of the celebrations. It was their significant contribution that we have today a wonderful Nyokum ground.

On this auspicious occasion, I would also like to thank my wife who gave many ideas regarding this project and made sure it is realized. I apologise that she is not present here today. She had to be in Delhi for personal reasons much against her desire. To my Secretary and ADCs for updating me of the project, even when I was in foreign countries.

Friends, this project is a very good example that with determination and dedication, we can realize any dream. I hope and pray, this project inculcates the spirit to dream higher and higher, amongst every child who comes to have a ride.

Well, I would like to remind you, especially the parents, please let your children enjoy and play. Give utmost importance to their recreation as you do to their studies. To be mentally healthy, you need a healthy body. I am sure, this train project will help you in that.

I am confident that 'Team Arunachal' will rise to face every challenge and give Arunachal and Arunachalees a place of pride in the country. Our state is on the progressive path of development, and we all must contribute with our share of hard work and dedication. I hope you have not forgotten my appeal of last Nyokum festival – 'a plastic free Arunachal'. Children it is your future and we would like to keep Arunachal clean and pollution free.

Before, I conclude, I would like to remind you another thing. This train is yours and you must take care of it. Government will not take your belongings and this train belongs to you. Therefore, ensure that this train is maintained so that even your great grand child has the pleasure to ride on it.

I, on behalf of my wife and on my own behalf, wish all our Nyishi Brethren and Arunachalees best wishes and also extend Heartiest Nyokum Greetings.

Jai Arunachal. Jai Hind.