ADDRESS
OF
Brigadier (Dr.) B. D. Mishra (Retd)
GOVERNOR OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
IN
THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION
OF
THE SIXTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
On
21st February 2019
Honorable Members,

1. With great pleasure I address the Hon’ble members of the Sixth Legislative Assembly in its Seventeenth Session today. I am sanguine that this session will conduct its business in an exemplary way.

2. Today as I talk to you my heart bleeds on the martyrdom of our 40 brave CRPF Jawans in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir. I offer my condolences to the bereaved families. Suffice for now to say that the sacrifice of the brave men will not go in vain.

3. To this house, I would like to mention that the Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has a special fondness for us. He says and I quote, “Arunachal Pradesh is India’s pride and gateway, and I assure you that we will not just ensure its safety and security, but also put it on a fast-track towards development”. Unquote.

4. For the development of our State, my Government has made historic, transformational, systemic, and structural changes. This made the past two and a half years’ period a unique time span for the State. The crusade against corruption, maintenance of law and order and a high trajectory of growth and development are the Grand Trunk Routes being followed by our Government.

5. Our young and dynamic Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu and his ‘Team Arunachal’ have commendably followed the philosophy of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas and Antyodaya– for reaching the benefit of the development to the last man standing in the row.

6. My government has zero tolerance for corruption and is Pro People and Pro Poor. It has proactively been consultative and participative, where views and suggestions from all sections of the society were sought for. Peaceful environment and the Rule of Law have been the priority areas for our government. The culture of ‘bandh’, which had become a malaise for the State has been curbed and disbanded.
7. Our Government has taken two prominent path breaking decisions of reforms in RECRUITMENT and PROCUREMENT. More than 6000 Government posts have been created and right people have been put in the right place. All group A and B recruitments are assigned to Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission for free and fair selection. For ensuring merit-based recruitment, the state government has brought a revolutionary reform by constituting Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board. ‘Merit’ and not ‘Money’ will now be the only criteria for selection.

8. With a view to eliminate corruption and to bring in transparency in the Government procurement procedure, a conscious decision of online portal GeM program for all government procurement, has been effectively enforced. Arunachal is the sixth State in India to sign MoUs with GeM.

9. My Government, for the first time, in the political history of the State holds regular cabinet meetings, at least, once in a month. For the first time in 33 years of the State’s existence, revenue has shown consistent signs of growth. In 2014-15, our Tax and Non Tax revenue was only Rs 919.77 Crore, which in 2017-18 crossed the mark of Rs 1500 Crores and it is expected to reach the new record high of Rs 2000 Crore during this fiscal year.

10. For effective governance and in public interest, this year our Government has created three more districts namely Pakke-Kessang, Lepa Rada and Shi-Yomi. In a step towards administrative decentralization, two Divisional Commissioners have been appointed and made functional, with Namsai (in East) and Yachuli (in West) as their headquarters.

11. In the same process, for the first time, the institution of Deputy Commissioners has been strengthened and empowered. The planning, preparation and implementation process of district specific programs like Mukhya Mantri Rogi Kalyan Kosh, Chief Minister’s Samast Shiksha Yojana, Chief Minister’s Adarsh Pathshala Yojana, Chief Minister’s Sashakt Kisan Yojana, District Innovation and Challenge Fund etc. now fall within their purview.
12. Our Government has also strengthened the important institution of Gaon Buras as well. Their monthly honorarium has been raised from Rs 1000 to Rs 1500 and for Head Gaon Burahs from Rs 1500 to Rs 2000. Further, in case of accidental death, the immediate kith and kin of the deceased Gaon Burah will receive Rs 6 lakhs and on natural death they will receive Rs 2 lakhs. The Gaon Buras will also be insured under PM Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana to avail these benefits. It has now been made mandatory to invite all Gaon Burahs to all development meetings organized by the government offices. The Gaon Burahs will also be given Rs. 2000 every two year for purchase of Red Coat besides mandatorily having an office cum guest house in every district.

13. One of the major initiatives of my Government towards transparency has been the funding of all schemes under CSS through PFMS & payment to beneficiaries under various central as well as State schemes through DBT mode. Accountability and efficient delivery of public services are being ensured through IT based platforms.

14. My Government has also embarked upon extensive use of Information Technology in interaction and redressal of citizens’ grievances. Arunachal e-Services, e-ILP, CM Helpline, e-Office, e-Cabinet, Secretariat WiFi, Jeevan Pramaan, CPGRAMS, GeM, NSP etc are some of the examples.

15. The State Government has also taken various steps for the welfare of its employees. We have implemented the 7th CPC recommendations, granted Tough Location Allowance to State Government Employees, and from January 1st 2019 enhanced the wages for Contingency workers of all categories. With effect from 01.01.2018, Retirement Age of Government Employees has been increased from 58 years to 60. As a Safety net for the families of the employees in case of his/her unnatural death, Employee Welfare Fund has been created. For raising the efficiency and knowledge in all matters pertaining to the functioning of the government, periodic trainings are being imparted to officers at all levels.
16. My Government has passed Arunachal Pradesh Land Settlement and Records Amendment Bill, 2018. The Bill recognizes the ownership right of the citizens, particularly indigenous people of the State and provides the right to give their land on long term lease up to 33 years. Introduction of Arunachal Pradesh Money Lending Regulation Bill 2018 was also passed to create a regulatory framework for licensed money lending.

17. My Government led by Chief Minister Pema Khandu has launched the Arunachal Rising Campaign to disseminate information about the major Flagship Programs of the State as well as that of the Centre to the grass root level. Starting the first leg of Arunachal Rising Campaign from Longding district in the east, the Campaign has now reached every nook and corner of the State.

18. Our Government has launched the Jan Sunwai Sammelan or “Sarkar Aapke Dwar” which has shown positive overwhelming response. More than three lakh people have so far been benefited from it. State Government’s Grievance Redressal Camps have been very successful in resolving the public grievances.

19. To ensure that the benefit of all important flagship programmes reaches the last person in the row, the State government holds review meetings with all Deputy Commissioners through UNNAT I- a video conferencing system to monitor implementation of the developmental schemes and projects.

20. With immense socio-medical pride, I mention here today that our State will now have home trained doctors at Tomo Riba Institute of Health & Medical Sciences (TRIHMS), which we have now started. With creation of 208 posts of specialists and 108 posts of GDMOs in the coming days, the health centers across the state will not face any shortage of doctors.

21. Chief Ministers Arogya Arunachal Yojana (CMAAY) provides health insurance financial coverage for a family upto Rs 5 lakhs per year for Secondary and Tertiary Care Hospitalisation who are not covered under AYUSHMAN Bharat scheme of the Central Government. While our Government provides assistance upto a ceiling of Rs. 10 Lakhs per patient, we continue to extend succour to cancer patients through CM’s Free
Chemotherapy scheme. We instituted Renal Care Fund to provide relief of up to Rs. 10 lakh per patient suffering from kidney transplant problems.

22. For making the Primary Education qualitative, our Government has done away with ‘No Detention Policy’ and has introduced ‘State Board Examination’ for class V and VIII. In order to combat shortages of subject teachers, 1100 posts for teachers in education department have been created. We have also decided to regularise 400 SSA teachers. For effective learning and teaching in our schools, 27,71,850 books were procured directly from NCERT and distributed to the remotest schools of our State. First Sainik School has started functioning from this academic year at Niglok in Pasighat. Chief Minister Samast Shiksha Yojana has been launched to identify critical gaps in education sector at the district level and fill them through ‘bottom-up approach’, Dronacharya Gurukul Yojana has been introduced to identify the talented students in schools to nurture their talent.

23. Our Government is also constructing five new Ekalavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) in the State. A total of 18977 eligible students have benefitted under the Umbrella Schemes for Education of ST Children (Pre & post Matric Scholarship), during the year 2017-2018.

24. Arunachal Pradesh State Private Educational Institutions (Regulatory) Commission has been constituted to regulate and monitor the functioning of Private Universities and Colleges in the State. The state is also expected to have its own university at Pasighat for which a sum of Rs. 15 Crores was earmarked this year. Government of India has also sanctioned two model degree colleges in Arunachal Pradesh at Namsai and Kanubari. The State will soon have it’s own law college from the coming academic year.

25. In order to involve the youth of the State in vision setting process and for expanding their horizon, our Government had organized Arunachal Transformational and Aspirational Conclave; in short, ATAL Conclave in which 100 youth from all the districts of Arunachal Pradesh were short listed through a rigorous selection process to undergo a Policy Boot Camp. Based on the enthusiastic feedback of the students who participated in this Conclave, we aim to make this an annual feature.
26. For preserving our rich tribal heritage, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sanctioned Rs. 28 crores for a state of the art ‘Tribal Research Institute’ for fundamental and applied research, which will start functioning from this year.

27. My Government is deeply concerned about the welfare and upliftment of the differently-abled persons. With the Chief Minister’s Disability Pension scheme merged with the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), the beneficiary’s pension amount has been increased as State Assistance from Rs 1000/- per month to Rs 1700/-per month.

28. During the year 2017-18, our Government has provided Maternity benefits to 6330 pregnant women under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana. Under Umbrella Scheme, 98 ICDS Projects, Anganwadi Services are now operational in the state with 6225 Anganwadi Centres covering 1,89,060 children in age group 0-6 years and 24,517 pregnant women & lactating mothers. This is 100% coverage through ICDS projects and Anganwadi Centres.

29. Under Child Protection Schemes, we have also constituted Juvenile Justice Board, Child Welfare Committees, and District Advisory Board cum Inspection Committees. In addition to the Juvenile Home at Pasighat, two more Juvenile Homes are expected to be made functional in Papum Pare and Changlang districts in the coming year.

30. I am very happy to inform this august gathering that my government has on board all the 13 Centrally Sponsored Schemes under Women & Child Development under PFMS Portal and making all payments through PFMS-DBT Platform.

31. For girl child, under Dulari Kanya Scheme, Rs. 20000/- is being deposited in the bank account of newly born girl child in any Govt. Hospital or Govt. recognized hospital. This amount can be withdrawn after the girl attains the age of 18 years. 350 newborn girl children have benefitted during the current year and 10000 beneficiaries are targeted to be covered.
32. During 2018-19, for the welfare of the religious minorities of the State under Multi-sectoral Development Programme scheme, the number of Community Development Blocks has been increased from 26 to 71. Under this scheme, out of total 9390 sanctioned projects, more than 8481 projects have already been completed.

33. In our State, 70 percent of the Population is dependent on agriculture. Therefore, the State Government has taken very keen interest for the welfare of the farmers’ community. Our Government aims to achieve the doubling of the farmers’ income by 2022. Ten percent of the 2018-19 State Budget has been earmarked to boost the Agriculture and the allied sectors. In this regard a good number of schemes have been introduced like the Chief Minister’s Sashakt Kisan Yojana (CMSKY) and Chief Minister’s Krishi Samuh Yojana (CMKSY).

34. Arunachal Pradesh, luckily, with less than 20% use of inorganic fertilizer, is organic by default. We have now launched ‘Mission Organic’ to achieve 100% organic status.

35. Chief Minister’s White Revolution scheme with the aim of augmenting the milk production, has been introduced in six potential districts of the State. The ‘Arun Dairy’ at Kharsingsa has been strengthened with new generation machineries to double the dairy farmers income.

36. Recently our State along with NABARD had organised a State Conclave on PERSPECTIVE PLANNING FOR RESURGENT AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTORS IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH. The conclave was attended by Government functionaries, agriculture and horticulture scientists and also market players and was addressed by more than 100 speakers.. The recommendations of the conclave have been released. This will be the roadmap for our Government to accelerate the growth in agriculture and allied sectors.
37. Our state has a huge hydropower potential and we need to tap this resource in a sustainable manner, while addressing the concerns of the local communities. Accordingly, with the commissioning of new hydropower projects, we are taking giant leap in power sector. On 9th of February this year our Hon’ble Prime Minister dedicated 110 MW Pare Hydroelectric Power Plant to the nation. I am hopeful that Kameng Hydro Electric Power Plant of 600 MW will also be commissioned soon in the State.

38. The Hon’ble Prime Minister of India, under the Comprehensive Scheme of Transmission & Distribution System, has laid the foundation stone of 31 sub-stations. This scheme of Government of India, importantly, aims at revamping the entire power infrastructure in the State. With the improved quality of power, we will witness a galactic rise in industrial and tourism sectors in our State.

39. My Government, under the leadership of Hon’ble Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu, has worked round the clock to achieve 100% electrification of the State within the given timeframe. I must congratulate our State Power Department for achieving 100% household electrification under SAUBHAGYA scheme, which fulfills the dream of Hon’ble Prime Minister to ensure that every household gets affordable electricity facility. This is an extension of the earlier scheme “Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana” where electricity was provided to all villages.

40. My Government has taken several steps in augmenting the use of State’s mineral Resources. The State has granted Ningru Petroleum Mining Lease to Oil India Limited after 15 years of pendency. My Government is also taking all steps to ensure revival of Namchik-Namphuk Coal field.

41. State Government has also framed Arunachal Pradesh District Mineral Foundation (Trust) Rule 2018 with an objective to work for the interest and benefit of persons and areas affected by mining related operations. Under the new rules, every Lease/Permit holder shall pay 30% of the royalty to the DMF, which shall be used, for local area development.
42. In Tourism Sector, our State has won many accolades like Best Tourism Initiative in North-East. National Leadership Award, Best Decorated Stand at IITM Kochi and Most Promising new destination at OTM Mumbai etc. In addition to various initiatives under tourism sector, the State has conducted annual calendar events such as Tawang Festival, Ziro Festival of Music, Adventure at Mechuka Festival, Orange Festival Dambuk, etc. We have also sponsored Indo-Asean Car Rally covering India- Myanmar – Thailand – Laos to promote Arunachal Tourism. It is heartening that in a bid to boost tourism in the State, the ministry of home affairs (MHA) has relaxed the provisions to obtain protected area permit (PAP) and restricted area permit (RAP) by foreign nationals.

43. Our Government has launched Tourist Police to instil a sense of security amongst the visiting tourists. Eco-tourism Society has been formed in each district for promotion of Eco-Tourism. Decentralized funding through District Tourism Promotion Council has been introduced in 8 potential districts to boost tourism.

44. The State Government has also taken steps for inculcating a sense of pride amongst the youth for taking up jobs with upgrading or acquiring of employable skills. 600 youths are being provided high end employable skill development training under “Chief Minister’s Yuva Kaushal Yojana” to constitute a strong skilled work force. My Government, under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, is also tying up with various skill development training providers to provide training and placement to our skilled youths.

45. Under Chief Ministers Seema Vikas Yojana, for uplifting the living standard of the people in border areas, 165 beneficiaries were provided TATA Mobiles for self employment. For the first time in 43 years, APST received national recognition and was awarded National Public Transport Excellence Award for the best performing North East State Road Transport Undertaking.

46. In the sector of National Highways construction, we have completed various stretches of National Highway packages. The construction of bridges across Dibang and Lohit rivers has been completed. Bogibeel Bridge, a boon for our State, was inaugurated by the Prime Minister in the month of December last year.
47. The State has also recently witnessed foundation laying / inauguration of various National Highway projects, both by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India and also by the Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways. These projects will improve connectivity between Arunachal Pradesh and the rest of the country.

48. Potin-Pangin stretch under Trans-Arunachal Highway, which was struck from past 5 years, has been sanctioned by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways with a cost of around Rs. 4000 Crores in 3 packages. I am sure that the people of that region will give full support to the Government in completing the project within the projected time frame. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana has been one of the most important schemes for our state to connect the inhabited villages. Under the scheme, for providing road connectivity to all the unconnected villages of our State, we have received Rs. 1700 crores in last 2 years. During the FY 2018-19, a target for 1400 km road length has been fixed by the GOI to connect 50 habitations. The department is contemplating to achieve 1600 km target. At present, 244 road works of 2111.28 km road length are under various stages of construction.

49. Hon’ble Prime Minister during his recent visit to our State also laid foundation stone of a very important strategic project - Construction of Sela Tunnel. The Tunnel, when constructed shall provide all weather road connectivity for civilian population as well as security forces, at Tawang, to and fro, round the year. This tunnel will also act as a tourism multiplier in the region.

50. Pasighat and Tezu Airports have already been activated for fixed wing aircraft operation. Alliance Air has already started commercial flight service by ATR-42 aircraft on these routes.

51. The best example of how things can move fast, when government and the people work in tandem in public interest, is the foundation laying of the long cherished dream of our State Capital Airport. Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Sh. Narendra Modi ji in his last visit to the State laid the foundation stone of ‘Hollongi Airport’, which was struck for past 12 years. Hon’ble Chief Minister Sh. Pema Khandu and his Team Arunachal have commendably made it a reality. It will see landing of A-320 series aircraft, which will also have cargo facilities.
52. Rail connectivity got a major boost this year. While new railway lines have been approved, surveys of some major rail routes like Bhalukpong-Tenga-Tawang, Pasighat-Tezu-ParashuramKund-Rupai, Dumduma-Namsai-Wakro, Dangri-Roing, Deomali-Naharkatia, Kharsang-Miao-Nampong-Deban, Tinsukia-Pasighat via Kanubari are in various stages of progress.

53. We are fortunate to have Itanagar and Pasighat listed in the Smart City program. This will substantially enhance the quality of urban life by providing core infrastructure, a clean and sustainable environment and application of smart solutions.

54. Our Government, under Chief Ministers Adarsh Gram Yojana has mooted a comprehensive plan to develop at least one village in each legislative assembly constituency as Smart Model Village. In addition to this, by leveraging technology and through open innovation, the Government is working in collaboration with the Smart Village Movement and University of California, Berkeley to ensure better facilities for our villagers by connecting them to the global market. 100 villages will be taken in the first instance which will be scaled up to all the villages in a phased manner.

55. The State Government has a mission to provide water to all by the year 2022. This year, budget of the Department has been increased by more than 50% with an allocation of approximately Rs. 500 Crores for providing water to remote villages and habitations.

56. During 2017-18 under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), a total of 163 habitations have been covered with potable drinking water facility. This is 12% higher than the targeted habitations of 145 habitations.

57. For the development of sports infrastructure in the State, we have completed the laying of football turf and hockey astro-turf at Sangay Lhaden Sports Academy Sports Complex, Chimpu. The State is also going to witness coming up of many state of the art stadia. It is a matter of great pride that the students of Sangay Lhaden Sports Academy Chimpu have brought laurels to the State by their achievements in Archery, Athletics Boxing, Judo, Karate, Taekondo, Wushu, and Weight Lifting competitions held at North East Regional, national and international levels.
58. We have been holding “Sports for Peace & Development” which is one of the most important components under Khelo India scheme. Under the scheme, Government of India has sanctioned 18 new schemes at a cost of Rs. 141 Crores.

59. Our Government has effectively changed the history by addressing one of the most pressing grievances of the Police personnel at the cutting edge level. We have solved the problem of stagnation of promotional avenues of Police Constabulary by the biggest ever Special Grade promotions. 1535 Constables with more than 20 years of service have been promoted to the rank of Head Constable.

60. For improving the security scenario in insurgency affected regions, the foundation stone of new PS building at Longding, and Khatang in Tirap District was laid by our Hon’ble Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu, under the Tirap, Changlang and Longding Action Plan. The civil work component of the project, worth around Rs. 155 Crores, commenced with the laying of the foundation stones. Recently, many new Police stations have been made functional. Pakke-Kessang and Tato Police Stations have been made functional to operationalise the newly created Districts. Women Police Station at Seppa was also made functional to improve the Women Safety. My Government has been making an all out effort to reach the people, and ensure that the law and order situation in the state remains peaceful. We have made amendment for giving capital punishment for the heinous crime of rape of women below 12 years of age and became the 4th State in the country to do so.

61. Finally, I wish a better tomorrow for all my Arunachali brothers and sisters.

62. Here, let me recall Late Atal Bihar Vajpayee ji’s saying and I quote 'Andhera Chatega, Suraj Niklega'. Similarly, today let us conclude with a resolve for our State Arunachal Pradesh “Tarakki Karega Khushhali Barheygi”.

Thank you
Jai Arunachal
Jai Hind