

## SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY GEN JJ SINGH, PVSM, AVSM,VSM (RETD),

**GOVERNOR OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH** 

ON THE OCCASION OF

INAUGURATION OF EAC HEADQUARTER AT KOYU

ON TUESDAY, 07 JULY, 2009 First of all, let me congratulate people of Koyu circle and East Siang district for the establishment of the Extra Assistant Commissioner's Office here at Koyu. I am confident that with the up-gradation from Circle Office to EAC Office, the people of the area, especially the indigenous population will be benefited. I am sure it will boost the pace of development in this part of Arunachal Pradesh.

The up-gradation of Koyu Circle to EAC Headquarters would bring administration more closer to the people. Now people need not go to ADC Office at Nari or District Headquarter at Pasighat for pursuing every case. I am very positive that once Nari-Kora road is completed, this place will be directly connected to Assam, which would give further impetus to economic activities in this area.

Friends, it is one of many initiatives of the State government through its 'People first policy' to address the needs and aspirations of the people at their doorstep. I would like to congratulate the Chief Minister Shri Dorjee Khandu, the Local MLA and Minister for Water Resources Shri Tako Dabi and the State Government for such a significant step which will result in more effective governance.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Local MLA and Minister for Water Resources Shri Tako Dabi for giving me the privilege to inaugurate the EAC Headquarter, Koyu and also for this excellent opportunity to meet and interact with the people, the gaon burahs, the youth, government officials and general public of Koyu. It makes me very happy to be with you all today.

Dear Arunachalees, this up-gradation will bear results only when people employed in this office maintain a good work culture. I am sure, our Minister and MLA Dabi Saheb and people present here agree with me. I know, this place is 75 km from Pasighat, which makes it difficult for the Deputy Commissioner to oversee the day to day work of the office.

Therefore, it is for the Extra Assistant Commissioner to shoulder the responsibility to ensure that the voice of the people of this remote place is heard and addressed. Today, citizens seek greater responsiveness and transparency from their Government. It is a 24 x 7 job and you have to meet this challenge. I am confident our Koyu EAC will not let me down.

I am very pleased to note that there is huge scope for horticultural and agricultural activities in this part of our State. I am told pineapples, chillies and oranges are grown in abundance in this area. I would like our government officials, especially those concerned with the agrarian and horticulture sectors to encourage the local people to avail benefits from these products by marketing not only fresh fruits and vegetables but also by taking full advantage of the Government policies which promote food processing at small and medium scale for financial empowerment of the people and to generate jobs for the youth.

Friends, you will be happy to know, in an effort to reap benefit of our natural resources, our bamboos, we are going to set up a pilot project of a bamboo processing unit at Poma, 32 km from State Capital Itanagar. The unit, with machines used in splitting and cutting of bamboo etc. will be set up with the technical help from Cane and Bamboo Technology Center, Guwahati. Once machines are installed and villagers are trained, the project will be handed over to the villagers to run. This will not only address the issue of unemployment but also will encourage entrepreneurship and help in making full use of our abundant natural bamboo resources. If this project becomes a success, we may set up such projects in other places such as Koyu too. Another avenue, which I have been encouraging, which needs no huge investment, effort or time, is bee keeping. You have vast pristine forest area and I feel bee keeping has a huge scope and potential over here.

Recently, I was in Singapore to address international summit on water, 'Singapore International Water Week'. In between my meetings, interactions and other important engagements, I took out time to tour few places over there. I was very impressed by their orchid farming and have introduced four new hybrid varieties of orchids, which are not available here. I have introduced these in Raj Bhavan Orchid Nursery and also give these plants to the State's Orchid Nursery at Tipi for propagation. As they have similar climate as ours, I think, these will survive here too. There is a need for bringing awareness on this kind of floriculture on a commercial basis. We should train our farmers, so that they can generate income out of it. You will be surprised to know, instead of traditional jhuming, people of Mizoram are increasingly going in for cultivation of Zerbera flowers and other exotic plants and earning huge returns. Why cannot we do it here too? We just need to build confidence in our people that they also have the same capabilities like the others in our region.

Before, I conclude I want to make one point. Large, ambitious goals usually require people to work together, cooperate and collaborate. Political leadership, officials and each and every citizen of the State needs to work as a team in providing an efficient Government. So let us be part of 'Team Arunachal,' and put in our best towards the development and prosperity of our beloved State.

Once again, I would like to thank each one of you for extending such a warm reception for me. I will definitely carry the sweet reminisce of this visit.

Jai Arunachal, Jai Hind