



ADDRESS

OF

SHRI S.K. SINGH

GOVERNOR OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

DURING

Legislative Assembly Session

ON 21st MARCH 2006

Hon'ble Mr. Speaker and Hon'ble Members,

I deem it privileged to welcome you to this Fourth Session of the Fourth Legislative Assembly.

1. I am happy to inform this august House that inspite of various constraints my Government has achieved all round development in the State. The Law and Order has been maintained and the State has remained largely peaceful despite of small provocations here and there. The Police have performed well both in prevention and detection of crime. My Government has, for the betterment and welfare of the police personnel approved the Police Housing Corporation Bill. My Government launched the Arunachal Police Ambulance Service (APAS) on 17th November, 2005 and flagged off 17 ambulances fitted with wireless, equipments and first aid boxes containing life saving equipments and emergency medicines. The APAS would work round the clock at different locations in all districts to serve the victims of the accident, crimes, and disasters both man-made and natural, besides evacuating seriously ill patients to the nearest health centers. A team of eight doctors from General Hospital, Naharlagun imparted training to 58 police personnel including 17 drivers to operationalize the service.
2. The Finance of the State has considerably improved in the last one year. In the year 2004-05, the total Plan outlay was Rs. 760.35 crores while for the year 2005-2006 it was pegged at Rs. 957.49 crores. Besides, the Ministry of DoNER sanctioned 12 new projects with an estimated cost of Rs. 123.95 crores and NEC sanctioned 11 new projects for Rs. 6.26

crores. I am happy to inform this august House that due to the efforts made by my Government, the plan size for 2006-07 has been put at Rs. 1100 crores.

3. Consequent to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, political decentralization has already taken root in Arunachal Pradesh. In this regard a historic MOU was signed on 9th November, 2005 by the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, Govt. of India and my Government for time bound activity mapping and demarcating clearly the power and functions of State Govt. and Panchayat leaders for early devolution of power to Panchayat Raj Institutions. Such devolution would empower the Panchayat Raj Institutions to select beneficiaries of various schemes and programmes of the Government and thereby bringing all round development to the State.
4. Agriculture is the backbone of the State's economy. To generate higher income and reduce imbalances, my Government continues to promote mechanization of agriculture by providing subsidy for purchase of such machinery. It also provides fertilizers and better variety of seeds for higher yield. In the year 2005-06 a total of 58 water projects were implemented; and, 21 new projects have been approved by the State Level Committee for which G.O.I.'s assistance is sought. In order to impart training to farmers three Krishi Vigyan Kendras have been established at Roing, Dirang and Deomali with assistance from Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR).
5. I am happy to inform that the department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary has established a milk processing facility under Dairy Development Programme at Nirjuli to process 5000 litres of milk per

day and to provide the same to the consumers in poly bags with the brand name “Arun Dairy”.

6. It is heartening to know that Horticulture has caught the imagination of the people of Arunachal Pradesh. Under Technology Mission Programme, integrated development of horticulture on holistic basis has been taken up for cultivation of various crops in different areas of the State. The State has also taken up close to 60,000 hectares under fruit production and about 15,000 hectares for production of spices. Arunachal Kiwis, Apples and Cardamoms are highly valued and appreciated in markets of Delhi, Bangalore and Kolkata. Under Swabhimar Rozgar Yajona, 1840 un-employed educated youths have been provided one hectare of horticultural garden each for self-employment. I must emphasize that horticulture and floriculture should be encouraged throughout the state by one and all.
7. Road connectivity remains one of the prime concerns of my Government. The development process can only reach the nook and corner of the State if there is connectivity. With the lowest road density, not only in the entire Northeast, but in the entire country its development, rather the lack of it, is cause for concern. Though the funds for road construction comes from various sources: Central Road Funds, DoNER , NEC and BADP, yet the total fund available is meagre compared to the requirement of the same. The State, which has large rivers and streams flowing into mighty Brahmaputra and where 96% of the land is hilly, the funds requirement is large and needs to be provided on a sustained basis for the gigantic task before us. Despite all constraints, PWD has taken up 26 Nos. of roads and bridges under central road fund, 10 schemes under DoNER and 3 roads under NEC.

Some of the major projects are of Dambuk- Paglam road, road from Dirang Dzong to Namthung via Sanglum, improvement of Changlang – Margherita road, Khonsa –Hukanjuri-Naharkatia, Jote – Balijan road, up-gradation of Pasighat-Ledum- Tene-Koyu road, up-gradation of Digboi – Pengri- Namchik (Miao) – Mahadevpur road, up-gradation of Seppa-Chyangtajo road, Construction of Bleting – Namstering – Khungbo –Honglo road, to mention a few.

8. In order to remove disparity in far flung and inaccessible border areas, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has released so far Rs. 16.81 crores for development activities in 28 border blocks.
9. A high-level team comprising of Joint Director General of Foreign Trade of North-Eastern region, Joint-Commissioner of Customs (P), North-Eastern region and the Director of Trade and Commerce, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh jointly conducted a four day tour to the border areas of Bumla Pass, Zemithang and Lumla to assess the possibility of opening of border trade with China and Bhutan. After concluding the tour on 11th November, 2005 the team observed that opening of border trade would also help in improving tourist inflow to Tawang district. The above team also visited Pangsau Pass and you would be pleased to know that my Chief Minister laid foundation stone for International Border Trade Centre at Nampong on 14.3.2006
10. The Government of Arunachal Pradesh has approved a Pilot Project for Delivery of Primary Healthcare Services through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP). The project is expected to ensure health care facilities for the people of the identified PHCs. One PHC in each of the 16(sixteen) districts of the State would be handed over to a reputed NGO/voluntary agency/non-commercial hospital for providing, inter-alia, clinical and preventive health services, implementation of the

National Rural Health Mission(NRHM) and other National Health/Family Welfare Programmes, health & Family Welfare related IEC activities, and for promoting community based disaster preparedness measures.

11. Along with the other States of the country, the Right to Information Act (RTI) came into force in the State from 12th October, 2005. The Law empowers statutory rights to citizens to get information from public authorities. The Govt. has already constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief minister for selection of State Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners. The Govt. has appointed 103 Public Information Officers (PIOs) and necessary training has been imparted to them at ATI, Naharlagun.
12. My Government established the Arunachal Pradesh Science Centre (APSC), at a cost of Rs. 2.20 crores. This was developed by National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), Kolkata and was inaugurated on 4th December 2005 at IG Park, Itanagar. It would not only be a centre of knowledge and recreation but would serve as boon and developing scientific temper among the tribal people of the State.
13. The 10-day Siang River Festival was inaugurated on 12th December 2005 on the bank of mighty Siang River. The Siang River Festival was organized by the State Tourism Department at Tuting, Yingkiong and Pasighat to showcase the natural beauty of Siang Valley and to transform the region into a major tourist destination. Multifarious activities like Eco-quest, river rafting by Bombay team and army personnel, display of arsenals, traditional beauty competition, angling, flower show, craft display and food festival were the main attraction organized by local youths. Such festivals should be organized by the

Tourism Deptt. in other areas of the State to attract tourists from other parts of the country and abroad. Similarly, Budha Mahostov at Chowkham was organized where Royal Thai Ambassador was the guest of honour. He spoke about better bi-lateral relations between India and Thailand in the field of education, tourism, trade and science. The cultural fusion during the festival showcased ethno-diversity of the state. Car rally, food festival, free medical camps, illuminating lamps in Berang River were other highlights of the festival. Namdapha Eco-Culture festival was also organized at Miao in a befitting fashion.

14. Arunachal Pradesh is blessed with huge Hydro Power potential. The Central Electricity Authority has assessed this potential to be about 49,000 MW of power. However, we have only Ranga Nadi Hydro Electricity Power Project with a capacity of 405 MW of electricity in operation. Government of India has sanctioned Kameng Hydro Electricity Power Project with an installed capacity of 600 MW at an estimated cost of Rs. 2500 crores. I am happy to inform you that my Govt. has entered into MoA with three major power companies for development of five mega projects with total installed capacity of 4800 MW in Siang basin. The State will receive more than 1000 MW in the form of free power and equity at initial stage will gradually increase after 10th year of commission of the project.

15. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), the National Programme for universalization of Elementary Education, has not only increased substantially the enrollment in the Primary level but also has contained the drop out rate significantly. Under Education Guarantee Scheme close to 1300 new schools were opened at various habitations in the far-flung areas of the state. Besides, about 230 new Primary Schools have

been opened, about 200 Primary Schools have been upgraded to Upper Primary level and 45 residential schools at Primary level have been opened at various localities in the State.

I am happy to inform the House that the funds under SSA have increased substantially this year, close to Rs.46 crores from Rs.30 crores earmarked last year. Additional fund has helped construction of new Primary School buildings, Residential School buildings, additional class rooms, toilet facilities, drinking water facilities, repair and maintenance of dilapidated Primary Schools and Upper Primary Middle Schools, Block Resource Centres and Cluster Resource Centres. I am also happy to inform that 4(four) schools for education of girls at Primary level have been established in the State and 14(fourteen) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) i.e. residential schools for the girls at the Primary level have been established in the districts where the gender gap between the educated male and female literacy is above the national average. The Government of India has only recently sanctioned another 5(five) new KGBVs for the State.

I would like to inform this august House that Rajiv Gandhi University, the lone University in the State, has started two new academic programmes, i.e. diplomas in Computer Science and Mass Communication. I am happy to inform that Central Government has accepted in principal to bestow the status of Central University to Rajiv Gandhi University and the Bill in this regard is likely to be placed before the Parliament very soon.

The Second phase of Rajiv Gandhi Polytechnic at Itanagar for which Rs.5.46 crores has been made available by the World Bank is nearing completion. The Polytechnic which is running 6(six) full time courses had earlier been constrained due to lack of space. Trades like Automobile Engineering, Garment Technology, Tourism and Hotel Management which required space for the expansion have in the meanwhile moved into the new buildings.

I am happy to inform that Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India has granted Deemed University status to North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST), Nirjuli in May/2005. With this, a long standing demand has at last come to fruition. Besides, the Institute now has a full time Director and Registrar to manage the affairs of the Institute. Three new M.Tech courses namely Information Technology, Environmental Science & Engineering and Forest Technology are due to be started from this session.

16. My Government attaches the highest priority for providing safe drinking water to all the habitations. The water supply project at Pasighat and Roing are progressing well and new projects for Daporijo and Naharlagun have been taken up. The water supply system has covered large part of the state and the remaining will be covered in a time bound manner.
17. The Department of Geology and Mining is responsible for geological survey, investigations, mineral exploration, control and monitoring on production of major and minor minerals and collection of revenue in terms of royalty for the State Exchequer. The State is having variety of

minerals like Coal, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dolomite, Limestone, Graphite, Iron, Marble, Ferro-Silicon Grade Quartzite, reported Lead and Zinc and other minerals. The Department has emerged as one of the highest revenue earners in the State with a total collection of royalty to the tune of Rs. 27.10 crores. It is proposed to give new lease for coal mining project in Namchik-Namphuk coal fields in Changlang District to Arunachal Pradesh Mineral Development and Trading Corporation Limited for which necessary clearance from Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Environment and Forests have been obtained. Once the project gets started it is likely to benefit the State to the tune of Rs.3.30 crores by way of revenue while at the same time the Corporation would also earn about Rs.1.70 crores from the project.

18. The Department of Relief, Rehabilitation & Disaster Management deals with the matters relating to providing relief assistance to the victims of Natural Calamities in Arunachal Pradesh. The State Disaster Management Authority has been constituted with Hon'ble Chief Minister as Chairman. This authority is primarily responsible for promoting an integrated and coordinated System of Disaster Management in the State.
19. In Arunachal Pradesh State Transport Services started functioning from December, 1975 with 2(two) buses plying from Khonsa to Naharkatia. Over the years its fleet strength rose from 2(two) buses to 236 buses which are now operating on 153 routes of which 30% of the routes are in Assam alone. The department is one of the major revenue earning departments in the State and it has taken initiative to increase the earning and decrease the expenditure by constantly checking areas

of revenue leakage, and by counseling the Conductors, Drivers, Booking Clerks as well as passengers for better work ethics..

20. Due to mismanagement, State Co-operative Apex Bank has suffered a serious set back. State Govt. is seized of the problem and has taken prompt action to supersede Board of Management (BoM). A full time CEO-cum-Managing Director has been appointed, and two commissioner level officers have been appointed as Co-Administrator. The Deputy Commissioners have been directed to take follow-up action for recovery of outstanding dues from the defaulters. From January onwards the recovery of loans have been encouraging. The State Govt. has decided to provide additional fund of Rs. 20 crores as equity participation on condition that the same amount shall be realized from the defaulters by way of recovery.
21. My Government is aware about the potential of the youth who are the future of the State. In order to channelise their energies in a constructive manner my Government has decided to declare 2006-07 as "The Year of the Youth". My Government would like to channelise the energy, the power of the youth in the field of games, sports, cultural activities, development of the State, self employment and above all in building their character for a better tomorrow. Accordingly my Government has decided to create a special cell in the Chief Minister's Secretariat to give boost to their activities and help them in all possible manner for self employment and other sustainable activities.
22. The Directorate of Research explored and excavated an important and very large Archaeological site (Mud Fort) at Hatiduba in Lohit District. In a trial excavation at Hajo, a good number of metal and

earthen antiquities were found from the probable site of Temreswari Temple. Further, a large number of Stone Age Cultural sites were discovered in Anjaw District. The final phase of conservation and renovation works at Bongal Yapgo(Historic testimony of Anglo-Adi War) in Lower Dibang Valley District has been completed. The renovation of Jawaharlal Nehru State Museum, Itanagar is going on under the sponsorship of Indian Museum and Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata. The District Museum at Tawang and Roing are in final stage of construction. A three day Artist's workshop on Arts and Crafts was organized in collaboration with Indira Gandhi Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal in March 2005. A two day seminar on "Interpreting the Heritage of the North-East" was organized by INTACH, New Delhi in collaboration with Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh at Itanagar in September, 2005.

23. The geology, rugged terrain, high rainfall, steep slopes and narrow valleys are the main cause of soil erosion in the State. To prevent soil erosion and excessive siltation in the rivers/rivulets, a centrally sponsored scheme on soil conservation named River Valley Project is under implementation and two catchments i.e. Dikrong & Jia-Bharali have been taken up. An area of 100 hectares has been developed and 34 nos. structures made in upper and middle reaches in Dikrong catchment to prevent soil erosion.
24. Rural road connectivity is a key component of development for the far-flung areas of the State. The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) project is one of the leading programmes of the Govt. of India to provide connectivity to the eligible unconnected habitations with population of 250 and above. Under PMGSY 430 road works of

993 km length have been constructed benefiting 162 villages. Another 340 km rural road construction benefiting 72 habitations have also been taken up by the Rural Works Department in the Phase-IV programme sanctioned by Govt. of India.

25. The Department of Social Welfare has given old age pension to 1355 people at the rate of Rs. 150/- per month. Under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NSAP), a total of 12923 old and infirm persons of 65 years and above, and living below the poverty line were provided financial assistance of Rs. 75/- per month. Under Rehabilitation of Disabled Scheme 75 persons have been provided financial assistance. Under National Family Benefit Scheme 260 families were provided financial assistance as one time grant. This benefit is given to the next kin of deceased in case of death of primary breadearner of the family. The Department is also implementing Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) scheme and has managed 58 ICDS projects with 2359 Anganwadi Centres. Recently 21 new ICDS projects with 678 Anganwadi Centres have been sanctioned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of India. Under Balika Samridhi Yojana Scheme, 630 girl children have been provided post birth grant of Rs.500/- per head so far. Under Swayamsidha Scheme, 6(six) Blocks have so far been covered in which 263 Self Help Group are functioning and another 387 Self Help Groups are likely to be formed in the next financial year. Under Kishori Shakti Yojana, 21 Blocks have so far been covered. Recently Govt. of India has sanctioned remaining 58 Blocks covered under ICDS for implementation of the schemes.

26. The Department of Science and Technology has extended its services to various departments and organizations, executed various scientific activities, programmes and completed projects and schemes towards all round development of the State. The department has three subjects viz Arunachal Pradesh State Council for Science and Technology (APSCS&T), State Remote Sensing Application Centre (SRSAC) and Information Technology (IT). SRSAC has completed nineteen projects in the field of Natural resources mapping and management, Rural and Urban area mapping, Topographical mapping, Hydro power catchment area mapping etc. The centre has taken up some major projects viz (i) Disaster Management Information System of Arunachal Pradesh (ii) Natural resources Atlas of Arunachal Pradesh (iii) Soil erosion studies and (iv) Mapping and monitoring of shifting cultivation areas. In the IT sector, the department in association with the Ministry of Information Technology, Govt. of India has established Community Information Centres (CIC) in 56 CD blocks in the state for storage, management and retrieval of information on various resources. In the current year, the department has taken up National e-Governance Action Plan (NeGAP). The state e-Governance Roadmap and Detailed Project Report are being prepared in this regard.
27. The Khadi & Village Industries Board has been playing important role for promotion of Khadi and Village Industries & Generation of self-employment in the state. The Board has been implementing Rural Employment Generation Programme, a Bankable scheme in which substantial amount of subsidies at the rate of 30% Margin Money are provided to the new entrepreneurs. To creating mass awareness programme on the Khadi & Village Industries the Board is

continuously organizing workshop, awareness camps, peoples education programmes, exhibition cum sale of Khadi & Village Industries products covering entire state. The board has financed margin money to 144 units to create employment generation programme.

28. Arunachal Pradesh is the second largest State in the country in terms of Forest cover and number one as regards biodiversity is concerned. These forests are managed scientifically for conservation of Biodiversity and sustainable utilization of timber and Non-Timber Forest Produces (NTFP) keeping in view the socio-economic dependence of local people on the forests. Forestry in the state has undergone a paradigm shift in recent years. There is an increased thrust on afforestation and forest regeneration programmes by involving people through the Village Forest Management Committees (VFMCs). Besides States own schemes, the Central Govt. has been supporting the State in improving and maintaining the rich forest resources of the State. The 12th Finance Commission has recommended Rs. 100 crores for maintenance of Forests w.e.f. 2005-06 to 2009-10 at the rate of Rs. 20 crores annually. Accordingly the Action Plan that has been prepared was approved by the Govt. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has sanctioned Rs. 24.45 crores for the eleven Forest Development Agencies namely Hapoli, Along-Sagalee, Shergaon, Bomdila, Nampong, Dibang, Khonsa, Deomali, Lohit & Daporijo division covering 347 villages.
29. The Govt. is seized of the problem pertaining of Public Distribution System (PDS). Steps are being taken to streamline existing system by rationalizing distribution of essential commodities.

30. The Department of Urban Development has taken up some important schemes like Urban Roads at Hawaii to the tune of Rs. 16.99 crores, Storm water drainage scheme(Ph-I) for Along Town Master plan area amounting to Rs. 7.45 crores, Parking and Shopping complex at Bomdila (Ph-I) amounting to Rs. 2.60 crores, Improvement and Upgradation of road network in Tawang Township to the tune of Rs. 3.74 crores, Construction of burial cum crematory at Karsingsa capital complex at the cost of Rs 2.39 crores.

31 The other major decisions taken by my Government relates to implementation of Arunachal Pradesh Rural Unemployed Guarantee Act, which will go a long way to improve the economic conditions of the rural unemployed youth. The Government has also approved enhancement of minimum wages of labourers of the State.

In order to ensure safety to life and property of the people in the event of any natural disaster, my Government has adopted guidelines relating to construction of buildings including local houses in Capital Complex, Urban Centres, District Headquarters, Growth Centres and Project Colonies in the State. In order to maintain better law and order, a separate department of Prison has been created for lodging of criminals and convicts of the State. My Government also has taken steps to separate judiciary from executive, which would see faster disposal of cases lying in various courts in the State.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has finally given its clearance for “Banderdewa-Karsingsa” site for Construction of a Greenfield Airport for the Capital Complex after their recent visit. In the year 2006-07, the State Government proposes to follow up vigorously with all concerned Departments for necessary actions for speedy implementation of the project.

My Government is committed to accelerate the pace of development in the State and for this we must all put our shoulders to the wheel and assist each other for achieving this goal. Let us all work hard for a happy and prosperous Arunachal Pradesh.

With these words, I extend my good wishes for your ensuing deliberations.

JAI HIND