

**GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS
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GOVERNOR CONVEYS NEW YEAR GREETINGS

Itanagar, Dec.31: The Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, General (Retd) J.J. Singh has conveyed warm greetings and good wishes to people of Arunachal Pradesh on the joyous occasion of the New Year and wished for a happy and prosperous 2013.

The Governor, while optimistic about the New Year said that today, the people stand at the critical juncture of entering the 12th Five Year Plan Period. The dawn of the New Year ushers in new hopes and expectations. Many of these aspirations will be realized in the coming year. This year, the people of the State will have a new state-of-art secretariat building and their first railway link. Residents of Itanagar will get potable round-the-clock water with the completion of Itanagar Water Supply project. The Itanagar-Hollongi four-lane highway, 1657 km two-lane Trans Arunachal Highway and 805 km two-lane roads connecting all district headquarters will be reaching advanced levels of implementation.

In his message, the Governor said that the year 2012 was an important phase in the development era of the State. It was the year when the efforts of the State Government started showing tangible results in several fields. Final touches were given to major developmental projects under Prime Minister's economic package. The State clocked an overall growth rate of 9.4% during the 11th Five Year Plan, which is considerably higher than the national growth rate recorded during this period. Appropriately ranked as the 4th best tourist region in the world for the year 2012 by renowned travel magazine 'Lonely Planet', Arunachal Pradesh registered a record rise in tourist inflow during the year. The year also saw the completion of the first successful year of the pro-people and development oriented State Government led by Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nabam Tuki.

While expressing proud on the achievements of the youth, the Governor said that the year 2012 was also the year of our youth. The sports-persons brought laurels for the State in many national and international events. An expedition team successfully scaled the 6488 meters high Mount Gorichen – the second highest peak of Arunachal Pradesh.

The Governor also expressed pain on the bandh-calls in the State capital and attacks on the fourth pillar of democracy but added that showing utmost maturity, the people of the State overcame the challenges and moved ahead.

Reflecting his feeling towards the ghastly Delhi incident, the Governor said that assured the people of the State that the Government will take all steps to ensure that the female gender in Arunachal are provided an atmosphere of safety and security. He

requested all to join hands together in ensuring that the nation doesn't have to witness such an incident ever again, while calling for the support and cooperation of all citizens.

Stating that the commencement of the New Year also reminds all to renew their pledge towards working for the well-being of all, the Governor urged upon all to strive forward with optimism and rise above differences and challenges to realize their dreams. Let us give shape to our aspirations and make Arunachal Pradesh a vibrant, prosperous and the 'happiest' State of India, General Singh appealed.