



ADDRESS
OF
Lt. General Kt Parnaik,
PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.)
GOVERNOR OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
IN
THE FIRST SESSION
OF
THE EIGHTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ON
15th JUNE 2024
ITANAGAR
Arunachal Pradesh

Hon'ble Speaker and Esteemed Members of the Legislative Assembly,

1. I am honoured to welcome all to the first session of the Eighth Legislative Assembly of Arunachal Pradesh. This is a momentous occasion, and I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all Members of this Legislative Assembly. I extend a special welcome to the Members who have been elected to this Assembly for the first time.

2. I wish to convey my heartfelt congratulations to Shri Pema Khandu Ji, our Chief Minister, on his re-election to this august house for the 4th consecutive time, and on winning an emphatic mandate in the recently concluded Assembly elections.

I also extend my best wishes to the entire Council of Ministers. I am sure that Shri Pema Khandu Ji and the Council of Ministers will continue to fulfill the aspirations of all people of Arunachal Pradesh in this term.

3. On behalf of this Assembly, I also congratulate our beloved and visionary Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, the Union Council of Ministers, and the newly elected Members of Parliament of the 18th Lok Sabha.

4. I will be failing in my duties if I do not appreciate and commend the Election Commission of India, Central and State officials, security personnel, and above all, every citizen who actively participated in the conduct of free and fair elections, making this festival of democracy a success. The high voter turnout, especially of women and first-time voters, is a testament to our citizens' faith in the democratic process. I am sure that with every vote cast in these elections stands a reflection of the aspirations of citizens and their trust in elected representatives.

5. I can emphatically state that all Members of this Assembly are cognizant of the responsibilities and trust reposed in them by the people.

I recall an old saying "**The Voice of the People is the Voice of God**". I therefore enjoin Members to faithfully and tirelessly work for the holistic and inclusive development of every citizen of Arunachal Pradesh, and indeed the nation at large. Your efforts must focus on inclusive development, ensuring that no one is left behind. It is your duty to ensure the well-being of our citizens and to create opportunities for all, irrespective of their socio-economic background.

6. The mandate given by the people reflects a clear desire for continued development, policy stability, and good governance. TEAM ARUNACHAL, working under the leadership of our Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu Ji has been able to significantly transform the developmental journey of the State. Arunachal Pradesh has made significant progress in all sectors, including infrastructure, health, education, women empowerment, sports, agriculture, and digital governance in the past few years.

7. Our State has achieved tremendous progress under the previous government, having made substantial contributions towards “**Vikasit Bharat Sankalp Yatra**”, directly touching lives of close of 2.5 lakh citizens across 2,108 Gram Panchayats. I am sure we will be able to maintain this momentum in coming years.

8. In doing so, let us focus on “**Embedded Systems of Development**”, to ensure good quality of design, aesthetics, utility, and sustenance, by maintaining highest standards of probity, transparency and accountability in all projects we undertake. A clean and dynamic governance will be the harbinger of equitable social welfare, health, education, and above all a state of “**Gross State Happiness**”. I am sure that a “**Vision Document**” for the state enumerating broader goals and the principles to achieve them will prove invaluable guide for continued progress of our beloved state.

9. While continuity of these efforts is crucial to the sustained development of Arunachal Pradesh, it is also essential that **TEAM ARUNACHAL** and indeed, all people of Arunachal, individually and collectively, identify and implement the next stage reforms in administration and governance that forms an integral part of both the mandate and aspirations of people. These reforms, the Reforms 3.0, will be geared towards enhancing both the ease of living and improving quality of life of every person.

10. While undertaking this transformative and reformative agenda, I am proud to inform this august House that my Government has not lost sight of the ideals of ‘**Antyodaya**,’ the concern for the well-being of the last man in the queue. I am proud that on the first day of my new government assuming charge, the first file signed by our Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu Ji is for approving the allocation of Rs 100 Cr. under the Chief Minister’s Social Security Scheme (CMSSS) benefitting about 80,000 widows, elderly, and Divyangs.

Arunachal’s compassionate and citizen centric governance model is dedicated to ensuring - dignity and enhancing the quality of life for the most vulnerable and marginalized sections of our society. This also marks a fitting tribute to the ideals of **Antyodaya** espoused by our beloved Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji.

11. Morning shows the day; when governance is riding on the philosophy of compassion, I feel the state is in safe hands.

12. My Government has also identified 24 citizen-centric decisions in the first meeting of the State Cabinet, which will take shape in the next 100 days. I am highlighting below some of these reformative steps which will usher change and build on the transformative reforms carried out in the past few years.

Governance Reforms

13. We are committed to achieve 100% digitalization of Finance and Planning Departments thereby enabling all Government payments to be made exclusively through digital means and boosting transparency and efficient fiscal management.

14. My Government shall introduce Bottom-up Planning, involving preparation of District-level Vision and Development Plans in consultation with stakeholders, ensuring effective and inclusive development at the last-mile.

15. We shall strengthen the offices of Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners to enhance effective governance, expedite decentralized decision making, and improve last-mile citizen service delivery.

16. My Government is committed to ensure the pro-active delivery of scheme benefits and entitlements to all eligible beneficiaries, with minimal citizen involvement and significantly reduce the application time. This is aimed towards for enhancing the ease of living, quality of life of citizens and improving ease of doing business. My Government will closely examine the existing compliances for scheme applications, recommend drastic reduction in compliances, discourage seeking unnecessary information from citizens and attempt to reduce all scheme application forms to a **maximum of 1 page each**. Similar measures will also be undertaken for the enhancement of the ease of doing business in the State, to boost the entrepreneurial spirits of the youth of Arunachal, including through a complete revamp of the **Ease of Doing Business** Portal. We are also closely examining the scope for further repeal of old and archaic laws.

17. We aim to create a golden repository of citizen data for the State, to ensure proactive scheme enrolment and service delivery with minimal documentation. This will facilitate faster access to scheme benefits and entitlements, streamlining the enrolment process for eligible beneficiaries and reduce scope for duplicate and ineligible beneficiaries of schemes.

18. We will establish the "**Institute for Transforming Arunachal**" (ITA), a State-level policy think tank and knowledge partner, to drive innovation in governance and enable the socio-economic transformation of the State.

19. We will notify the "**Administrative Reforms Commission**" to examine and provide recommendations for improving the organizational structure, recruitment, and staffing policies to build a lean, efficient, and agile administrative framework with maximum adoption of technology.

Enhanced Quality of Life of Citizens

20. We are committed for ensuring the 100% physical and digital connectivity of all unconnected villages and Administrative Headquarters. Towards this goal, my Government will prepare a detailed roadmap.

21. We are also preparing a detailed action plan for the full-fledged implementation of the National Education Policy, 2020 in the State to provide universal access to education, improve learning outcomes and pass percentages of students, develop 21st century skills amongst students and improve efficiency and efficacy of teaching by rigorous training.

22. My Government is also formulating an effective Policy enabling top educational institutions to setup campuses in Arunachal Pradesh and to encourage participation of Community Based Organizations, NGOs and other CSOs in the field of education. We aspire to become an education hub for the entire North Eastern region.

23. We are also in process of revamping the **Dulari Kanya Scheme** providing incentives up to Rs. 50,000 to every girl child from Arunachal Pradesh enrolling in Graduation or Professional Courses.

24. In lines with the vision laid out by the Government of India, we are committed to empower at least 21,000 women from Arunachal Pradesh to become **Lakhpati Didis** over the next 5 years, earning an annual income of more than Rs. 1,00,000 and achieve a higher standard of living and inclusive growth.

25. My Government will soon notify a new '**farm to fork**' Agricultural and Horticultural Policy focusing on natural farming, higher farm gate prices, enhanced market linkages and exports of crops, fruits, vegetables, and flowers.

26. We are committed to the welfare of weaker sections of society. To ensure dignity of life and improve quality of life of widows, elderly and Divyangs, we will be revising guidelines of the Chief Minister Social Security Scheme, providing for wider coverage of beneficiaries and enhancement of pension amounts.

27. We are committed to the 100% Saturation of Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) leveraging the Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, Mobile (JAM) Trinity for all amenable schemes, ensuring faster and accurate payments to beneficiaries, removal of all ineligible beneficiaries and ensuring financial savings for both the Government and citizens.

28. My Government will also create a real-time digital inventory of all public infrastructure in the State, especially schools, hospitals, health centres, Anganwadi Kendras etc. to identify scope for improvements and upgradation of such infrastructure, enhance ease of access for citizens and efficient usage of public assets.

29. Arunachal Pradesh, at present, does not have cities with world-class amenities, infrastructure etc. Therefore, we will revise the existing Itanagar-Naharlagun Twin Capital City Master Plan to enable the Capital City to become future-ready and make significant improvement in city life for citizens.

Fulfilling Youth Aspirations

30. The need for building a skilled and meritocratic work force is essential for ensuring the smooth and efficient functioning of administrative and governance mechanisms. Therefore, we will identify all existing vacancies in Departments for preparation of annual recruitment calendars for subsequent years.

31. My Government will launch the **SEE Trinity** (Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, Employment) to completely reorient entire ecosystem in the interest of youth and provide 25,000+ Employment and Self-Employment Opportunities for youth in the next 5 Years.

32. We will also dedicate to the youth of Arunachal Pradesh an innovative Youth Policy, focusing on youth aspirations, education, skilling, health including mental health, entrepreneurial aspirations, community involvement, participation in governance mechanisms etc.

33. Sportspersons from Arunachal Pradesh have been winning laurels in various national and international events. However, more sustained efforts need to be made for participation in the Olympic Games, Asian Games etc. Therefore, my Government will launch the Arunachal Olympic Sports Mission for high-potential sportspersons enabling participation from Arunachal in the 2028 and 2032 Olympic Games.

Investment for Development

34. My Government extends its heartfelt thanks to our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji and the Government of India for launching the **UNNATI Scheme** with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 Cr. for boosting industrialization and investments in the North East Region. To dovetail with the UNNATI Scheme, we will notify a new Arunachal Industrial Policy to boost investments in specific sectors and nonpolluting industries in Arunachal Pradesh.

35. My Government will also notify a new 'Arunachal Pradesh Handloom and Handicrafts Policy' and 'One Tribe, One Weave Mission' to protect and promote indigenous textiles, handicrafts etc. providing enhanced incomes for artisans, market linkages and enabling applications for Geographical Indication (GI) tags.

36. Arunachal Pradesh has immense tourism potential. To leverage the untapped tourism potential, my Government will notify a new Tourism Policy, including film, farm, wine and eco-tourism, homestay policy to provide holistic experiences to domestic and foreign tourists, attract investments and provide employment and self-employment opportunities for our youth.

37. In addition to these high-impact reforms, my Government pledges to undertake the following in the next 5 years.

38. Health and education remain our top priorities. In the field of education, we shall aim to provide relevant and quality education and improve the infrastructure of our schools and colleges.

39. My Government has recently launched a series of critical education initiatives as part of Mission **LEAP** (Learning Enhancement Arunachal Pradesh). The initiatives include School Readiness Programme, Learning Recovery and Enhancement Programmes, Board Exam preparedness initiatives, Bagless Saturdays for all classes, vocational skills education for classes VI to XII and a 100-day Foundational Literacy and Numeracy campaign for classes I to III. These initiatives are in alignment with the National Education Policy 2020 and aim to enhance teaching and learning outcomes in all Government schools.

40. The full-fledged, successful implementation of these initiatives will serve to transform the educational ecosystem of the State in the interest of our youth, our Amrit Peedhi. I therefore request Hon'ble Members to work closely with the Education Department, teachers and District Task forces to closely monitor the implementation of these programmes, and provide their suggestions for further improving learning outcomes of students.

41. We have provided health insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakhs to over 7 lakh people of the State. My Government will examine the scope of moving towards universal health care coverage in a phased manner.

42. We should also aim to develop modern Anganwadi Centres, underscoring our commitment to enhancing childcare and early childhood education infrastructure within the State.

43. It is the need of the hour that we modernize and elevate existing Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and polytechnics into state-of-the-art Skill Development Centres. We shall also undertake the upgradation of Employment Exchanges into Model Career Centres to enable our youth to access employment opportunities.

44. We should make consistent efforts to empower our communities and cooperatives. We shall strengthen Dairy Cooperatives and promote dairy farming across the State, to mention a few focus areas.

45. I must congratulate **TEAM ARUNACHAL** for spearheading unprecedented economic growth over the last eight years, which truly has been an era of transformation, brought by my Government led by our Chief Minister, Shri Pema Khandu ji. During the last tenure, the State's Gross State Domestic Product has increased by 136% and the per capita income has surged by 104%, meaning an average of Rs 1,25,000/- additional disposable income per person. By 2047, we aim to become the largest economy of the North East with the highest per capita income.

46. As part of our sustained efforts for the saturation of flagship schemes amongst all eligible beneficiaries in the State, we have constructed over 36,000 houses, provided Functional Household Tap Connections to 2.12 lakh households, loans to over 6,500 street vendors, enrolled 45,000+ people under the Atal Pension Yojana, provided life insurance cover to over 2.2 lakh people, annual income supplement of Rs. 6,000 to over 1.1 lakh farmers and issued more than 96,000 Kisan Credit Cards to our farmers.

47. To continue with this momentum in the coming years, we shall focus on policies and initiatives that well-being and quality of life of citizens by adopting a pro-active mode of scheme disbursement and aiming for 100% saturation of schemes amongst all eligible beneficiaries.

48. Addressing unemployment is another critical area, and I believe that empowering our youth is key to the future prosperity of our State. My Government shall focus on creating job opportunities for the youth through various initiatives, including skill development programs and support for entrepreneurship.

49. There is huge employment potential in the defence sector which needs to be explored. My Government shall focus on training the youth for recruitment into the Armed, Paramilitary, and Police forces, thereby contributing to national security and youth empowerment.

50. We shall introduce a new comprehensive Sports Policy for the state, designed to provide robust support to athletes through training programs and various forms of assistance.

51. Infrastructure development will continue to be a key focus. It is essential that we expedite the completion of ongoing projects and ensure the timely initiation of new ones. Special emphasis should be placed on further improving connectivity, both within the State and with the rest of the country, through road, rail, and air networks. This will not only boost economic growth but also enhance the quality of life for our citizens.

52. Some of the key focus areas should include construction of rural roads under the Vibrant Village Programme, demonstrating our commitment to rural infrastructure development, construction of Pink Toilets across all districts, demonstrating our commitment for improving sanitation infrastructure and promoting gender equality and establishment of Multipurpose Community Recreation and Development Centres at all Panchayat Bhawans, underscoring our commitment to foster community development and recreational activities across the State.

53. Maintaining peace and security is fundamental for development. Our State has a legacy of being peaceful, and we must uphold this tradition. My Government shall take all necessary measures to ensure law and order, fostering an environment where every citizen feels safe and secure and ensure the safety of women and children.

54. My government will ensure the effective implementation of the three newly introduced criminal laws: the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyams of 2023.

55. I applaud the efforts of the State Government for the initiation of Pink-Patrolling with PCR vehicles as part of our ongoing efforts to enhance women's safety, gender equality, and safety in our communities.

56. We shall work towards strengthening our disaster management systems to mitigate the impact of natural calamities.

57. We shall also work towards providing interest-free loans to Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), and cooperatives, facilitation of organic produce and export promotion, boosting the 'One District One Product (ODOP) programme through District Facilitation Centres and developing a new Mining Policy to promote sustainable mining exploration.

58. My Government will also work towards the speedy resolution of the Assam Arunachal border issue.

59. The diversity of Arunachal Pradesh is our strength. We must celebrate our cultural richness and work towards unity and harmony among all communities. My Government will continue to promote initiatives that preserve and promote our cultural heritage while fostering a sense of belonging and pride among our people. We should continue to support cultural events and activities that bring our communities together and also showcase our unique traditions to the world.

60. With a high forest density, environmental conservation is crucial for the sustainable development of our State. We shall take special cognizance of this and implement policies that balance development with ecological preservation, ensuring that our natural resources are protected for future generations.

61. My government is committed to maintain transparency and accountability in all its actions. We shall continue to uphold the principles of good governance, ensuring that every decision and policy benefits every single person of Arunachal Pradesh. We are also committed for eliminating the scourge of corruption in public life.

62. We shall also conduct a detailed analysis of all Flagship State Schemes, to accurately gauge their effectiveness and impact in the state. This will ensure corrective measures to make them more effective and thereby underlining our commitment to effective governance and service delivery.

63. We will work closely with the Union Government for the timely execution of various hydropower projects.

64. In the next 5 years, my Government is committed to completing construction of the Arunachal Frontier Highway and District connectivity roads. We will also complete construction of the 2,000 MW Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project in the next 5 years and regularly monitor the construction of the 2,880 MW Dibang Multipurpose Hydroelectric Project to ensure timely completion.

65. We are working dedicatedly to achieve 100% high-speed internet connectivity to all Panchayats, facilitating digital inclusion and socio-economic development across the region. In the next 5 years, we will ensure installation of telecom towers in all unconnected areas.

66. In a perfect example of cooperative federalism and close cooperation, the Government of India has sanctioned a State Cancer Institute and Hospital on the day of the swearing-in of the Pema Khandu Government. My Government will complete the construction of the Hospital in the next 5 years, ensuring people do not have to travel outside the State for cancer treatment.

67. In conclusion, I would also like to highlight the inspiring words of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, where he emphasized the importance of unity, development, and progress for all regions of Bharat, including the Northeast. His vision of "**Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas**" aligns perfectly with our goals for Arunachal Pradesh. We are committed to work in harmony with the Central Government to achieve these objectives and to ensure that the benefits of development reach every corner of our state.

68. Bharat's welfare benefits the planet's journey to progress as well. This resonates deeply with the ethos of Arunachal Pradesh, where community and collective welfare are integral to our way of life.

69. Bharat's successful efforts in governance have provided courage and assistance to many nations. The innovative practices of pro-people good governance, aspirational districts, and aspirational blocks are being discussed globally. In Arunachal Pradesh, we are committed for adopting and adapting these best practices to uplift our citizens, particularly those at the last rung of society. Our dedication to last-mile service delivery is unwavering and we will ensure that no one is left behind in the development process.

70. The Digital India campaign is now a shining example for the entire world, demonstrating how technology can be used to empower the poor, bring transparency, and ensure their rights.

In Arunachal Pradesh, my new government will continue to promote digital initiatives to bridge the gap between remote areas and the rest of the country, ensuring that every citizen has access to essential services and opportunities.

71. The Prime Minister's vision of **Reform, Perform, and Transform** is particularly relevant to us. We must embrace reforms in every aspect of life, not just economic, to align with the aspirations of a **Viksit Bharat** by 2047. This multidimensional approach to reform requires leadership from us, performance from our administration, and active participation from the people, leading to a transformative impact on our society.

72. The principles of "**Speed, Scale, Scope, and Standards**" that our Prime Minister speaks of must guide our efforts. In Arunachal Pradesh, we shall focus on these principles to enhance our productivity, improve the quality of our products, and ensure that our development is sustainable and inclusive.

73. As we look to the future, we must redefine our heritage in a modern way while embracing our ancient values. This means reassessing outdated thinking and beliefs, freeing our society from negativity, and fostering a culture of positivity and excellence. Our dedication to these principles will lay a strong foundation for future generations and take Arunachal Pradesh to new heights.

74. On behalf of my Government, I take this opportunity to express gratitude to all the Ministries and Departments of the Government of India which have been proactively supporting the State in developmental projects and welfare measures in various sectors of the economy. Union Government in the past years, has allocated sufficient resources and constantly guided us on the progress of the projects.

75. Today, Arunachal stands at the cusp of transformation. In this journey of Reforms 3.0, we must walk hand-in-hand. I request you to become willing members in this journey that we seek to undertake.

76. Public service requires sacrifice, dedication and all our commitment. I am sure that you will faithfully and tirelessly undertake the immense responsibility, that you, as Members of this august House, have been chosen for as public representatives.

77. Let us strive to build a prosperous and vibrant Arunachal Pradesh, where every citizen can achieve their full potential.

Jai Arunachal!

Jai Hind!