

*Republic Day Speech on 26th January 2018 of
Chowna Mein, Deputy Chief Minister-Arunachal Pradesh
At Namsai, Stadium Ground*

My dear brothers & sisters

Indian constitution came into force 68 years ago after a long struggle of freedom from British imperial rule. Our Indian constitution, which is the largest written constitution of the world was enacted on this day throughout the country. Since then, this day holds great significance to us.

On this auspicious and momentous occasion of our **69th Republic Day**, I extend my warm greetings to the people of Namsai and all of you present here.

Dear friends, “Sabka Sath Sabka Vikash” is the mantra of our Govt. We are witnessing a transformational change in governance and public welfare that determines the future course of development of the nation. Under the dynamic leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister, Sri Norendra Modiji, our Government is committed for ensuring Good governance at all levels.

The state Government under the dynamic leadership of Hon’ble Chief Minister Sri Pema Khanduji has completed one year of tenure. The past one year has been a year of an unprecedented growth trajectory. Here, I would like to mentioned some of our achievements-
Connectivity-

The biggest impediment in the development of our state has been the challenge of connectivity. Absence of robust connectivity has alliented our frontier state for long and deprived the people of our state of opportunities to reach out to national markets, to harness opportunities in tourism, to deepen opportunities in education and

employment. Our Government has taken the following initiatives to address the challenge of connectivity–

Air connectivity- I am confident that this year we shall see the operationalization of the ALG at Pasighat for civilian flights. The government is also determined to ensure progress on establishment of a civilian airport at Hollongi. The development of Tezu airport has also been completed by the Airport Authority of India in all respect and soon it will become functional for commercial flights under UDAN Scheme. The Government has given priority attention to deepen the availability of Helicopter services across the state.

Road Connectivity - The Union Government has assured Rs. 50,000 Cr for improving road connectivity over a three year period. Last year we have seen significant progress in the implementation of the Trans Arunachal Highway (TAH). This is an area where results are clearly visible on ground. Rural road connectivity has received a significant push under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Over the period, 772 PMGSY roads spanning over 5990 KM length have been completed connecting 841 habitations. During 2018-19, the Government has set a target for construction of 1400 KM roads connecting 65 habitations. Survey & investigation for construction of Frontier Highways in upper range & East-West Industrial Corridor along Foothills have been approved by Union Government.

You have noticed the pace of work in two major infrastructure projects languishing for long ie- Sadiya-Dhola Bridge & Bogibeel Rail cum Road Bridge. One is already commissioned and the other is nearing completion. On completion of these bridge different degree of dynamism in Eastern Arunachal will take place.

Rail connectivity: It is indeed a matter of profound happiness for all of us that Government of India has committed to take up a new railway line from Silapathar (Assam) to Aalo, via Bame in West Siang district & North Lakhimpur-Ziro. Already approved projects of Murkongselec-Pasighat & Margherita-Deomali, Lekhapani-Kharsang, Itakhola-Seijisa railway line survey completed. Survey of Pasighat-Tezu-Parsuram Kund-Rupai via Namsai is in full progress. Bhalukpong-Tawang approved railway line will shorten distance from 385 km to 165 km only.

Public infrastructures

We can be proud of the remarkable quality of public infrastructure which has been created in recent times. The Arunachal Legislative Assembly building, the civil secretariat at Itanagar are high quality assets. The Interstate bus terminus was commissioned last year. A state of the art convention centre is going to be commissioned shortly. I, as a finance minister have announced Rs 15.0 Cr each to newly created district during 2017-18 budget. Namsai District is also one of the beneficiaries and we will see many residential and non-residential infrastructure coming up soon in this new district. There has been a significant improvement of the district level infrastructure as well including completion of District secretariat buildings at several places including our Namsai.

Smart Cities

Arunachal Pradesh is one of the few states in India where Government of India has made a special consideration in declaring two cities- Pasighat and Itanagar as smart cities. This is a historic opportunity for all of us to build new age infrastructure in these cities.

This, however will require an imaginative and participatory approach in decision making.

Effective Public Delivery system

The government has taken concrete measures to ensure that the fruits of development reach all parts of the state. Effective measures for decentralization of public service delivery have been taken and the offices of Divisional Commissioners at Yazali and Namsai are now a reality. Few days back we have inaugurated Office of CE-PWD, CE-PHE&WS and SE, RWD Office at Namsai also.

Swachh Bharat Mission & ODF Status

The Government had given a commitment to make the State Open Defection Free (ODF) by 31st December'2017 which is one year and ten months ahead of the national target of 2nd October'2019. We can all be proud of the fact that we are one of the first states in the country to have delivered on that promise.

Information technology & Communication: In the field of IT & Communication, the Government has taken unprecedented steps under the Digital Arunachal Mission for improving the services delivery as well as improving efficiency of the government. We have successfully initiated the automation of ILP system (e-LIP,) e-office, e-cabinet, AP Civil Secretariat with Wifi, LAN, Government e-Marketplace (Gem), Audit and pension portal etc. Digital Arunachal will not only increase efficiency but also bring in transparency and accountability. Efforts are in full pace to give IT facilities to each gram Panchayat under Digital India Mission.

Organic Arunachal"- Arunachal Pradesh is blessed with the bounty of nature in terms of horticulture, agriculture produce and has a special place in global bio-diversity map. It is richly endowed with medicinal

plants, rare orchids, kiwi, cardamom, apple, Quinoa, Orange that can compete with the best agriculture produce anywhere in the world. The Government has taken a decision to gradually transform Arunachal Pradesh into a fully organic state with strong support from the Government of India.

We are witnessing the emergence of a new breed of progressive farmers and agri-entrepreneurs who are taking risks and venturing into newer cash crops. The government will extend all support of credit, agricultural inputs, infrastructure and marketing to ensure that the produce of Arunachal becomes globally recognized. To enable the poor farmers easy access to formal credit through banking channels, the Government is providing 0% interest crop loan to farmers under CM's Krishi Rinn Yojana . The Government has signed an MOU with NDDDB for organizing the dairy farmers in clusters on the AMUL model which will help creating a value chain from milk aggregation to dairy processing.

Employment & Attracting private investors: Apart from serious challenges on building infrastructure and connectivity, the biggest challenge for our government is to provide gainful employment and attract private investment. The government has launched Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Swalamban Yojana to encourage unemployed youths of the State to gain access to low cost capital for Entrepreneurship with 30% back ended capital investment subsidy. Unemployed youths can take advantage of this schemes for value addition in agriculture and allied activities, Eco Tourism, Traditional Textile and Small Scale Manufacturing. The youth have shown an enthusiastic response to the scheme but will need handholding support for formulating projects which are economically viable. I request all Officers to guide them

properly in this direction. Let us transform our youth from job seeker to job providers.

Electrification: It is a sad reality that Arunachal Pradesh had the largest number of un-electrified villages in the country. Under the Deendayal Upadhyay Gramjyoti Yojana, this year we will be electrifying nearly 1230 un-electrified villages both on the on grid mode and through decentralized solar energy at an estimated cost of Rs. 300 crores. More than 120 villages have already been electrified and this year we have set for ourselves the target of achieving 100% rural electrification. For the first time the poor people in the remotest corners of the state will be able to see their homes lit up at night. Under UJALA scheme of Government of India, launched in July 2017, the Government has target to sell 4,25,000 LED bulbs, 1,78,000 LED Tubes and 39,000 Energy efficient fans. I urge all the citizens of the state to take advantage of this scheme which would result in saving 10 MW of power. I am happy to announce that Namsai district has achieved 100% electrification of villages.

Education & Skill development: There can be no bigger service to mankind than providing quality education to the children. It is an investment in the future of society. Arunachal Pradesh has for the first time taken a bold and progressive step towards improvement of quality of education by launching the smart classroom program in more than 700 schools of the state. Technology will help bridge the educational divide which between Arunachal Pradesh and the rest of India.

Vivekananda Kendra and the Ramakrishna mission have played a significant role in providing quality school education to the people of the state. Had it not been for these institutions, many of the young

leaders of the state would have been deprived of precious opportunity. The government has decided to deepen its partnership with these institutions and help in their expansion, especially in those parts of the state where educational attainment levels are low.

In the field of higher education, we will see concrete measures to establish an education hub at Tezu and a University at Pasighat. The Law college at Jote will be made operational soon and a special focus will be given to education in science, math and technology to create a new breed of professionals from the state. Green field science college will be established in Namsai district during next year.

Not all youth aspire for a degree in higher education and need education which is meaningful and employment oriented. Creation of quality skill development infrastructure has engaged priority attention of the government. Four new ITIs at Sagalee, Ziro, Pangin and Kanubari which will start functioning from session 2018. We have been successful in selecting 115 students to undergo employment link degree and diploma courses to Team Lease Skill University in Vadodara Gujrat .

Health: The Health sector is one sector which is associated with all human beings from their journey from the cradle to the grave. With the completion of Academic block and appointment of faculties, the Academic session of Tomo Riba Institute of Health & Medical Science (TRIHMS) Naharlagun is expected to start during 2018. We has also launched facilities like free Chemotherapy, Dialysis machines, ICU, Trauma Centre and Emergency Unit etc.

The Government is also going to establish a Paramedical Institution in the State for which the land identification is under progress.

The Government is also committed to early start of the revamped Health Insurance Scheme by the first quarter of 2018 which will provide an effective and affordable health care alternative to the poor people of the state.

Women & Child development: The role of women in building societies cannot ever be over emphasized. It is our duty to build a society which respects women. The Dulari Kanya Scheme was launched to provide a certain degree of financial security to the girl child. A sum of Rs.20000/- shall be deposited in the bank account of newly born girl child in any Govt. Hospital or Govt recognised hospital, which can be withdrawn only after the girl attains 18 years of age of age to help her higher education. 350 newborn girl children have benefitted under this scheme during current year. During 2018-19, 10000 beneficiaries are targeted to be covered.

Youth & sports:- The Youths of the State have brought laurels by winning medals in the fields of Weight lifting, Judo & Karate, Tennis, Boxing, Mountaineering, Wushu and Shooting. To provide and facilitate our Youths with quality sport infrastructures, the government is committed to complete the Outdoor Stadiums at Pasighat, Daporijo, Ziro and Yupia and make them functional by 2018. We are also exploring opportunities to establish a stadium complex at Namsai with 50.0 Cr investment with support from central government.

Developing remote & border areas: People living in remote border settlements often have to grapple with the biggest challenges of connectivity and infrastructure apart from harsh climate. To remove the critical gaps in physical and social infrastructural needs and to strengthen the economic conditions of the people living in the remote border blocks, the Government has submitted composite development

proposals to the Ministry of Home Affairs seeking special assistance for providing rural connectivity to unconnected villages, development of Educational, Health, Power infrastructures, Water Supply & Sanitation and PDS Godowns in the Border areas. I am confident that we shall soon hear of a formal announcement of a package of assistance for border areas.

Model Village: With an intention to ensure that basic amenities like 24x7 piped water supply, electricity, Schools, avenues for employment generation, open defecation free, health and road infrastructures is available in rural areas, the government launched Chief Minister's Adarsh Gram Yojana with an outlay of Rs 1.5 crores per village. I hope that the model villages selected under this scheme will provide an example of planned development through participation of Panchayats and local residents of the village.

Rooting out corruption in public life: Honourable Prime Minister has made it a personal mission to provide a corruption free government. We cannot afford to allow public resources to be wasted and under no circumstances will the Government tolerate indiscipline or corruption from any government servant irrespective of rank. Strictest of action shall be taken against anyone found indulging in corrupt practices. Our state Govt has taken a decision to transfer the benefits of schemes in the beneficiaries account directly through DBT for which funds of Central sector schemes are being channelized to departments through PFMS. We have already seen some strong decisions being taken by government in this regard.

We can no longer allow anyone to take law in their own hands and we shall no longer tolerate indiscriminate call of *bandhs* or disruption in public work. We have taken a bold and decisive measures to ensure

transparency and eliminating corruption in public life. There has also been a firm handling of the disruptive “bandh culture” in the state, which has been applauded and supported by all citizens of the state. Our Government will work tirelessly to put Arunachal Pradesh in an unprecedented growth trajectory. I urge all citizens to be patient and contribute to this remarkable growth story and be a proud partner as history unfolds itself. I can foresee that Arunachal Pradesh will be a bright spot in the country, with an accelerated inclusive growth, equity and all round development. We have given a call of Team Arunachal and we have all seen how a united team spirit is bringing about transformational change in the state.

Ladies & gentlemen, the principle of “sabka sath sabka vikash” has been demonstrated by our Govt this year during budget preparation. With an aim to involve people’s participation in decision making, we undertook Pre-Budget consultations with various sections of societies and Community Based Organizations before giving final shape to the Budget. As a result, a “People Centric State Budget for 2017-18” could be presented in the Assembly.

I have already initiated the same spirit for finalizing the budget 2018-19 . We recently conducted a “ Dream Change Arunachal 2027” conclave where breurocrate, policy makers, technocrats, experts deliberated on various subject confronting the development of the state. The recommendation of the conclave has been taken for incorporation in our future plan.

It is a sad realities that in some districts of our state including our own Namsai, people have taken to illicit poppy cultivation & drug abuse. It is rendering the youth unproductive, making them addicted to drugs. The menace of drugs & opium has to be fought from many

angles. Whole society is stake holder in the fight against this social evil. In order to frame an effective action plan, I have conducted a consultative meeting with the district administration, police officers, CBOs, NGOs, social & student organization yesterday in a marathon meeting which lasted for 6 hours. In the meeting we resolved for adoption of “**Zero Tolerance**” against drug & opium. Let us send a message to all that there is no place for drug & opium in our society and we will fought collectively against it.

It is a matter of satisfaction that during last few years many developmental activities have been completed and many more are being undertaken. Time doesn't permit me to elaborate each of them. Just I want to assure you that **Health & education, Agri & allied, infrastructure development** and above all **employment generation** will be my top priority in near future

We will march together on the path of development for prosperity and happiness of all. Let us work for better future and prosperity for every citizen of our area. Let us make Namsai area clean and green. Let us live a life of peace and harmony.

I thank and appreciate the efforts put on by School children, teachers, guardians, Govt staff, NCC, Scout and guide, cultural troops to make this event a memorable one.

I extend my gratitude to all the Panchayat and public leaders, GBs, and general public for attending this celebration.

I thank you all,

JAI HIND