



ADDRESS
OF
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GOVERNOR OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
IN
THE TWELFTH SESSION
OF
THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
On
2nd March 2009

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

I deem it a privilege to welcome you to this Twelfth Session of the Fourth Legislative Assembly. My best wishes are with you for the successful completion of the budgetary and legislative business ahead.

First of all let me congratulate the State Government and its employees for successfully solving the issue regarding implementation of central sixth pay commission. Each and every employee of Government of Arunachal Pradesh should feel proud that ours is the only state in North East and one of the very few states in the country to implement the recommendations of the central sixth pay commission with some suitable modifications.

All the esteemed members of this Legislative Assembly, you are the apex policy-makers for the State and you all have a vital role to play in development of this State. Today, our State is going through a historical transition phase and your efforts will make it one of the most developed states in the country. You are the major players in the TEAM ARUNACHAL to make Aruanchal a developed state in a time bound manner. I hope that the ensuing deliberations will be fruitful and will be held in true spirit of democracy.

Committed to the 'people first' approach, my government is determined to make Arunachal Pradesh a role model of all-round development. Our efforts will continue so as to ensure that every section of society reaps the benefit of development. Hon'ble members, we also have an important role to play in making our state a prosperous and modern state, and at the same time improve our quality of life. Financial empowerment of the 'Aam Admi' can come through initiatives from us relating to tourism, handicrafts, horticulture, floriculture, beekeeping and 'mission honey', organic farming of fruits and vegetables etc. besides the mega developmental projects of the PM's package.

My Government has taken up, in spite of various constraints, number of initiatives on various fronts and laid a strong edifice on which it can help build a modern, strong, stable and self-reliant Arunachal Pradesh. To achieve the desired objectives within a set time-frame it has already set in motion the process towards fine tuning the administrative system to render it 'People-Oriented, People-Friendly and People-First'. The essence of our endeavor is aimed at promoting economic growth along with advancing the cause of distributive justice and create new employment opportunities. Our people expect the government and the leaders like you to be pro-active and sensitive to their needs. Hence, we have and we will continue to pursue economic reforms and widen the space

for individual initiative and enterprise. Even as we do so, we cannot forsake the obligation of running a government that works, and works for the people. The reform of administration and of public institutions to improve efficiency and the quality of delivery services will be our immediate priority.

I am extremely happy that the past one year happened to be quite eventful in the history of development of Arunachal. There has been an unprecedented burst of development activities never witnessed earlier in the annals of the State. The Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit in the last year was an event of unprecedented importance. It was followed by series of visits of high level dignitaries to our state such as Vice President of India, Union Minister for Defence, Union Minister for DoNER and recently the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission. Various important developmental programmes of over twenty thousand crores have been announced by the Prime Minister. We are confident that within a reasonable span of time, Arunachal Pradesh will catch up with other developed states of our country. I must congratulate the Chief Minister Shri Dorjee Khandu for successfully convincing the Central Government about the need for rapid socio-economic development of the state and also I must thank all those who contributed immensely towards the

envisonment of the historical package announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Our State endeavors for rapid all round development and progress to attain self-reliance in all spheres of life. The Prime Minister's development package is progressing in the right direction with strict monitoring modality in place. I, myself am closely monitoring all the schemes.

As its commitment to the people, the Government has tried its best to achieve excellence in every field of development. The Central schemes are being implemented in a proper and correct perspective for the benefit of common people. The system of third party monitoring instituted for the very first time is revolutionary and praiseworthy. Further, in order to bring more and more transparency, the State Government has started hosting all the relevant information on various departmental web-sites.

Hon'ble members, with an objective to promote transparency and accountability in every sphere of public life, my government has accorded top priority for dissemination of information through Right to Information Act 2005. To provide corruption free governance and to remove the veil of secrecy, which is vital for any pro-people government, initiatives and training on capacity building were imparted. Things have begun to change for

the better and we have a role to play to ensure that our State prospers along with its citizens.

Hon'ble members, my Government has initiated steps to widen sustainable revenue generation and economic self-reliance by harnessing 57000 Mega watts of hydro power potential through various hydro power projects. Once these projects take off, we will have an unprecedented rise in the employment and income generating activities throughout the state for current and future generations. In the last twenty months, 22 Mw of hydro power generation has been added due to the Prime Minister's Package while in the preceding thirty-five years only 35 Mw of hydro-power had been contributed to the power Kitty. It is worth mentioning here that my Government attaches the highest priority to the people to be affected by various projects. In order to redress their problems, we have brought out the 'State Rehabilitation and Re-settlement Policy 2008' with wide ranging benefits. I am very proud to say that Aruanchal is one of the few states to have such a generous policy.

Various Central Government Flagship programme, such as National Rural Health Mission, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Mid-day meal, Integrated Child Development Scheme and along with Pradhan Mantri Grammin Sadak Yojana are

being implemented with utmost discipline to benefit the common people.

Thrust is given on social sectors like health and education by upgrading and extending healthcare and education facilities, particularly, to rural and remote areas. Under NRHM many programmes have been implemented with missionary zeal. Under Janani Suraksha Yojana, 6094 pregnant women have been benefited, while Rogi Kalyan Samitis were constituted in all the fourteen District Hospital, twenty-nine Community Health Centres and seventy-one Primary Health Centres. Fourteen ambulances and Mobile Medical Units have been provided against the Districts. Forty-one sub-centres have been made functionalized as per IPHS, thus totaling 144 Sub-centers and 25 Primary Health Centers have been made functionalized as per IPHS. Three thousand three hundred and sixty-four Accredited Social Health Activist, popularly known as ASHA, has been selected and trained. In order to cater to the needs in health sector, 21 Sub-Centres have been upgraded to PHC, 6 PHCs have been upgraded to CHC and up gradation of General Hospital Naharlagun to Medical College is under process and indoor beds have been increased to 250 from previous 150. We have also built a corpus of Rs.50 Cr for the R K Mission Hospital at Itanagar.

Along with qualitative improvement of education, the State Government has been encouraging girls' education. Our efforts to address the challenges in the field of education are huge but we aim to increase the percentage of children in age group of 6 to 14 years attending school to 100% through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Focusing on quality elementary education with emphasis on education for life, my government aims to bridge all gender and social category gaps. I must acknowledge here that with implementation of the mid day meal scheme, we have not only minimized the dropout trend but also improved the enrolments at Primary and Upper Primary school levels. I am very happy to mention that this year the government is planning to launch Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan on the lines of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. All Arunachalees will feel proud that we have built a corpus of Rs.40 Cr for the VKV and Rs.20 Cr for the RK Mission Aalo, which are the pioneers of education infrastructure in Aruanchal Pradesh. We have also provided additional Rs.29.00 Cr under SPA for providing infrastructure of the school education and also Rs.7.0 Cr for the procurement of text books. Further, the Government has decided to buy the textbooks exclusively from the NCERT.

Promoting excellence and providing greater access to all sections of society in higher education have been the guiding principles of our new initiatives. Our government

has given the highest priority to a quantum leap in higher education. There has been an unprecedented expansion in this sector. Opening of colleges at Yachuli, Seppa, Nyapin and Law College at Itanagar during the financial year says it all. We have provided Rs.10 Cr under SPA to improve the infrastructure for the Higher Education.

Further, to encourage Arunachal Pradesh scheduled tribe students for taking UPSC examinations, the stipend of the students who have qualified the preliminary and main examination has been enhanced to Rs. 30,000/- and to Rs. 50,000/- respectively from the year 2008-09.

The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which now covers the whole State, is the first such poverty alleviation intervention where the State guarantees employment for a specified number of days to any category of citizens. In 2007-08, 1,23,371 rural household were registered and 38,586 job card issued. Along with the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, the social security framework has been further strengthened through Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar yojana and Indira Awas Yojana.

We are committed to provide safe drinking water to each and every habitation in the State. It will be done in a phased manner. I myself have inspected few of the sites. Major water supply projects are being executed in Basar,

Tuting, Jengging, Likabali, Namsai, Jairampur, Seppa, Tawang, Bomdila and Lumla. The work on the Itanagar water supply project under PM package is going on at a good speed and I am happy to announce that recently the Ministry of DoNER has retained the project of Tezu water supply at an estimated cost of Rs.21.00 Cr.

Top priority is given to agriculture, horticulture and beekeeping for economic upliftment of rural populace. Significant strides have been made in agricultural production during the year 2007-08 following need based application of science and technology which helped in bringing gradual change from subsistence Agriculture to a commercial or sustainable farming system. The year 2007-08 is rated one of the good years for agriculture since long with an estimation to achieve higher production. A record production of 2.44 lakh MT. of food grains, estimated consisting of 1.54 lakh MT of Rice, 0.76855 lakh MT. of coarse cereals, 0.08618 lakh MT. of Pulses and 0.05294 lakh MT. of Wheat including Buck wheat has been recorded. The total production of food crops actually available for consumption came nearly to 72.16% of total food requirement of the state during 2007-08. This is really a quantum jump.

Irrigation is a vital input for enhanced crop productivity. The State is topographical undulating and

hence minor irrigation is one of the sectors that provide irrigation facilities to the command areas of small patches. So far the department has created irrigation potential of 1.44 lakh hectare which is inclusive of ground water also. With the announcement of Bharat Nirman Programme, the Department is contemplating to achieve further potential creation of 0.30 lakh hectare during XIth Plan.

Considering the immense potential in horticulture, my Government has bought two refrigerated vans for easy transportation of products. The Government is putting up immense efforts to promote organic farming in horticulture sector. I am also hopeful that in near future we will be working on promotion of various food processing industries in the state. Hon'ble Members, I am fully convinced that the bigger projects will definitely come today or tomorrow, but what we urgently need is the sustained income generating activities for the rural masses especially women and youth. The only sectors which have this potential are Tourism, Horticulture, Organic Farming, Textile and Handicrafts, Apiculture etc. I am glad that my Government has launched the Micro-Finance Vision 2011 for establishing 5000 Self Help Groups throughout the state to provide income to the rural masses.

Hon'ble members, as you all know, rural road connectivity is a key component of Rural Development. It promotes accessibility to economic and social services and thereby generating increased agriculture income and productive employment opportunities. With the 'People First' approach, the State government is marching ahead in establishing all weather surface connectivity for prosperous Arunachal Pradesh. I am happy to inform you that under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, we are going to connect 93 habitations having 500 and above population with a road length of 1100 kilometers within the year 2010. Our effort is in progress to provide road connectivity to 513 small settlements in border blocks with a road length of 2880 kilometers by 2011. Recently, I laid the foundation stone of one of the important road project under this package in Upper Subansari district in Daporijo area. All these constructions will be with cent percent quality assurance.

Hon'ble members, it gives me immense pleasure to inform you that under PMGSY / Bharat Nirman we have been able to provide connectivity to 339 habitations with completion of 1745 kilometers of road length and another 1402 kilometers of road projects are under execution. I would like to appeal to the dedicated engineers to ensure high quality road construction for prosperity in each of the villages connected.

In our effort to take administration to the doorsteps of the people, we have opened and upgraded various administrative headquarters, especially in the border areas. We have also initiated reforms in our administrative system to make it more people oriented.

Ensuring effective governance at grass root level, we have taken concrete steps in devolution of powers to Panchayat Raj institutions. Activity mapping on functional powers under 29 subjects has been devolved to Panchayati Raj Institutions through Gazette Notification. The capacity building training to the elected Panchayati Raj members and Government functionaries at State Headquarters, all district Headquarters and Block Headquarters has been conducted. Workshop on Panchayat Mahila Shakti Ebam Yuva Shakti Abhiyan has been conducted on Women empowerment and capacity building at State Headquarter for which Standing Core committee has been constituted. District Planning Committee has been constituted in all the 16 Districts of Arunachal Pradesh and Rs 4.80 Crore released for strengthening it. The State Election Tribunal has also been setup and functioning. In addition, Rs 6.80 Crore has been released to Panchayati Raj Institutions under the Twelfth Finance Commission grants.

Peace, security, and development in the state continue to receive my Government's focused attention. My Government has a clear strategy to deal with the situation in Tirap and Changlang districts. Continuing with proper funding in order to give impetus to development process in this two districts, my government has allocated 25 crore rupees under Department of Tirap and Changlang Affairs. The state government has constituted a 'Core Group' on security in the line of Unified Command structure to deal with insurgency problems. Under active persuasion of the State Government, one battalion of Indian army has been deployed in Tirap district for counter insurgency operations. The third IRBn has already been raised and is undergoing training.

I am glad that the law and order situation during last year, by and large remained peaceful and under control. It is my pleasure to commend the Home department and all ranks of our Police forces for sincere and dedicated service to the people. The recent successful breakthroughs in some of the important incidents such as theft of Rs.16 Crore from Anini Treasury, loot of Rs.33 lakhs from Itanagar ATM etc. has proved the mettle of our police force and I hope the spirit continues. With more and more funds made available by Ministry of Home affairs under Police modernization, we expect to have a very committed and competent police force in the coming future. My Government has also taken up the initiative to

raise Arunachal Scouts Battalions which will give employment to many young people and they will be given a responsibility to defend their motherland.

Taking very serious note of boundary problems with our neighboring State, a separate Directorate of Inter-State Border Affairs under the Department of Home affairs has been established for proper management of border issue.

Hon'ble members, my government has taken several steps to ensure that basic essential commodities reach to the targeted population. With the help of network of 1569 nos. of fair price shops, 46 POL outlets and 34 SK Oil outlets and with 23 LPG outlets, we shouldered the responsibility of supplying essential commodities to the people at a uniform and reasonable price. Further strengthening the existing Public Distribution System network and to cover poor people living in far flung and inaccessible remote border areas covering 25,000 rural population, we have taken up to open additional fifty nos. of Fair Price Shops during this current financial year of 2008-09. In addition to it, we have ensured proper implementation of centrally sponsored 'Annapurna' scheme for old indigent citizen who are 65 years and above and who are not getting the benefit under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme. Four thousand Seven hundred and sixty-one individuals are benefiting

from it, while thirty-eight thousand families are benefiting under Antodaya Anna Yojana, targeting the poorest of poor BPL families. To address the availability of essential items, 5 (Five) Nos. of new FCI base depot (Tawang, Seppa, Ziro, Daporijo & Tezu) inside Arunachal Pradesh were opened and had been made operational.

A healthy economy is vital to secure our twin objectives of security and all-round development and here our labour force plays a very important role. Realizing their imperative contributions, my government has constituted a State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board for the welfare of the labour force and also increased the wages of unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled labourers. We have succeeded in implementation of the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996 along with the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996 and State Rules were framed there under. Arunachal Pradesh Building & Other Constructions Workers Welfare Board has been constituted by the Government and various functionaries appointed under the Acts. Schemes, such as Housing loan, Tool Advance, Medical Assistance, Marriage assistance, Maternity assistance, Education assistance, Old age pension, Disability pension, normal death, Accidental death and Funeral assistance are under implementation.

Along with disposing of cases under Workmen's Compensation Act 1923, my government is sincere in implementation of Child Labour Act through out the state in order to eliminate evil of child labour.

Maintenance of communal harmony and adherence to the secular ideals of our Constitution are the bedrock of our ethos. Celebrating the spirit of oneness and brotherhood and showcasing the rich cultural heritage and tourism potentials, my government attaches the highest priority to celebration of various cultural festivals such as Festival of Arunachal, Buddha Mahotsava, Siang River Festival and Pangsau Pass Winter Festival etc. It is now a well known fact that we are gifted with immense tourism potential. Now we need to work on converting this potential into a real income generating source for the state and its people. I am proud to inform this august gathering that our State has been awarded national tourism award 2007-08 for the development of tourism infrastructure.

With the winning of silver medal by Master Yukar Sibi in the Common Wealth Youth Games, the world has realized the potential of our tribal youths. Our youths have excelled in many other fields of games and sports too. To give better platform to our youths, my government has been able to get approvable in principle

from Government of India for eight district sports complex, five indoor hall and youth hostel in different parts of the State. We are also providing Rs.3.0 Cr as corpus fund for the Sangay Lhaden Sports Academy.

My Government is committed for promotion of Industries in the State. To revitalize the spirit of entrepreneurship and to attract investments, in our effort to create employment opportunities for rapid economic development, a new 'State Industrial Policy 2008' with lots of incentives has been brought out. Addressing employment problem, I would like to mention here that my government has computerized the Employment Exchange at Naharlagun and is going to computerize all the District Employment Exchanges in a phased manner.

Honorable Members, the Budget session begins today. Apart from the financial agenda relating to the Budget, there is also important legislative business awaiting completion in this Session. We know that the work of State Assembly, especially in the Budget session, will be keenly watched by our brothers and sisters whose hopes and aspirations all of you represent. They especially want to see that the invaluable time of Assembly is best used for completing all scheduled business. I wish you success in your endeavours.

I conclude my speech by quoting Mahatma Gandhijis famous words

Quote *“Recall the face of the poorest and the most helpless man whom you may have seen and ask yourself, if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him, will he be able to gain anything by it? Will it restore him to a control over his own life and destiny?”* Unquote

Jai Arunachal, Jai Hind.