



ADDRESS
OF
Lt. GENERAL KT PARNAIK
PVSM, UYSM, YSM (Retd.)

HON'BLE GOVERNOR
OF
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
IN
THE THIRTEENTH (BUDGET) SESSION
OF
THE SEVENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
On
08Th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2024
ITANAGAR
ARUNACHAL PRADESH

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

1. Jai Hind. My warm welcome to all the Hon'ble Members to this Thirteenth Session of the Seventh legislative Assembly of Arunachal Pradesh and the First Session of the year 2024.
2. At the outset, this being the election year, let me express my best wishes to the Hon'ble Members of this Assembly for the ensuing assembly elections. As we participate in the festival of democracy in the coming months, I am sure your good work and dedication to public service will be recognized by the people.
3. In this regard, we have witnessed the transformational development and rapid progress of the country under the visionary and globally acknowledged leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji and the progress made by our own State in leaps and bounds in all sectors under the dynamic and energetic leadership of Shri Pema Khandu ji.
4. The 'Mantra' of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas', 'Sabka Vishwas' aur 'Sabka Prayas' of the Hon'ble Prime Minister has inspired my Government, very ably led by Shri Pema Khandu ji, to toil and strive towards contributing to the vision of 'Viksit Bharat'.
5. As we may recall, the nation successfully tackled the unprecedented challenges posed by a once-in-a-century COVID-19 pandemic through not only an integrated surveillance and response mechanism but also the swift development of vaccines and mounting the world's largest vaccine administration program for its citizens for free, besides supplying vaccines and medicines to many nations globally as a gift from the people of Bharat.
6. With a whole of society approach, including cooperation of Hon'ble MLAs, PRI members, community-based organizations, youth associations, NGOs, spiritual and religious leaders, the excellent leadership of Shri Pema Khandu ji and collective efforts of the Health Department under the able Health Minister resulted in the State recording among the lowest mortality rates in the country with recovery rate consistently being over 99%.
7. It pleases me to say that our focus areas of development are very well aligned with the 'Saptarshi' development priorities to guide our State during 'Amrit Kaal', thus providing a blueprint for an empowered and inclusive economy, under our youthful Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu ji and his 'Team Arunachal'. As we have seen they are following the 'Antyodaya' approach – for ensuring that the benefits of development reach the last mile and the last person.
8. The last eight years have been a never-seen-before era for Arunachal, where my Government has made historic, transformational, systemic, and structural changes

that have improved the lives of all our citizens, especially benefitting the poor, the women, the youth and the farmers.

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

10. Our guiding pillar 'Governance Reforms and Prudent Financial Management' is aligned with the 'Financial Sector' guiding pillar of the 'Saptarshi'.

11. It is with a sense of pride, I inform that, under the very deft and skillful leadership of the Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister and Minister of Finance, Planning & Investment with guidance and support from the Hon'ble Chief Minister, our State has made a quantum jump on the economic development front through fast tracking governance reforms and prudent financial management. They have:

- ensured that more resources are spend on socially useful and economically productive investments while not defaulting on any commitments in terms of loan repayments, salaries & wages, and pension dues,
- overseen the increase of 137% in the State Annual Budget,
- overseen increase in State's Own Resource (SOR) by nearly 172% from Rs 1,253.61 Crores to Rs 3,412.81 Crores,
- implemented Electronic Government Receipt Accounting System or eGRAS from 2022-23,
- enhanced autonomy of Panchayati Raj Institutes or PRIs by devolving 29 subjects and keeping our commitment of allocating 10% of our Own Tax Revenue to PRIs - providing Rs 123.00 Crores in 2022-23 and Rs 143.11 Crores in 2023-24,
- reformed the Arunachal Pradesh Staff Selection Board or APSSB,
- adopted environmental or climate tagged budgeting after the historic 'Pakke Declaration',
- introduced the National Pension System (NPS), including extending it to autonomous bodies and societies,
- sought suggestions from the Community-Based Organizations and general public for the State General Budget preparation,
- partnered with many reputed institutes like LBSNAA Mussoorie, IIM Shillong, IIM Kolkata, NISG Hyderabad, NESAC Shillong, NID Ahmedabad etc.,
- published the State's first Startup policy, and
- published the State's first Logistics Policy under the PM Gati Shakti framework.

12. As a result of these significant efforts, during the last 7-8 years:

- Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) increased about 136% from Rs 20,373 Crores in 2015-16 to Rs 48,028 Crores in 2023-24,
- APSSB is ISO 22100 certified for its fail-safe processes and has facilitated employment of more than 2,800 citizens in a fair, objective, and transparent manner,
- ratio of women participation in Panchayats stands at a commendable 47.34%,
- 66 startups have been incubated with Arunachal being adjudged a 'Top-Performing State' by Government of India, and
- the State has moved up in Logistics Ease Across Different States or LEADS ranking.

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

14. Our guiding pillar 'Investment in Health Sector' is aligned with the 'Inclusive Development' guiding pillar of the 'Saptarshi'.

15. My Government, taking up the priorities of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Pema Khandu ji, has brought about unprecedented development in the health and education sectors, with the annual budget being themed around these sectors in FY 2020-21 and 2021-22, respectively.

16. In the fight against COVID-19, we:

- established 63 Covid Care Centres, 35 Dedicated Covid Health Centres, 2 Dedicated Covid Hospitals and 60 ICU beds in the shortest possible time,
- took up the challenge of establishing oxygen supported beds, starting from nil, and reaching 1,565,
- ensured that all district hospitals have medical oxygen pipeline connected beds, oxygen concentrators and oxygen cylinders, and
- ensured that CHCs and PHCs have oxygen concentrators and oxygen cylinders besides establishing 49 Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Oxygen generation plants including 27 from PM CARES Fund in adversarial monsoon weather conditions.
- As a result of these interventions, the State managed to maintain a covid recovery rate of over 99% and did not face any oxygen crisis, with no deaths occurring due to oxygen shortage.

17. My Government turned the Pandemic crisis into an opportunity, with the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Pema Khandu ji and his team taking up the challenge of creating much needed health care infrastructure in the State.

18. Let me highlight some of these here:

- Establishment of the first medical college of the State, the TomoRiba Institute of Health & Medical Sciences (TRIHMS), with the first batch of our MBBS doctors passing out last academic session.
- Further upgradation of TRIHMS with inauguration of Hospital Block II, equipped with state-of-the-art Emergency & Trauma Centre, modern OPDs, a new 46-bed private cabin, a 22-bed ICU, a 11-bed HDU, and a 3-bed Isolation ICU, a cutting-edge 3-Tesla MRI—the first of its kind in North East, and a full-fledged cardiology department with Cath Lab and Intensive Coronary Care Unit.
- Opening of a 250-capacity women's hostel.
- The 108 Ambulance Service was launched on 21 June 2021, the International Yoga Day and more than 200 ambulances are deployed under the Emergency Response Ambulance service.
- Introducing Hospital Management Information System, Tele-Medicine for remote consultation and Tele-Maanas for mental health. All District Hospitals, 40 CHCs and 6 Urban PHCs are connected on online mode and 40 PHCs on offline mode.
- Two State Hubs for teleconsultation have started at TRIHMS Naharlagun and BPGH – Pasighat, with registration of 308 spokes, including 226 Sub Centres, 78 PHCs, and 4 Urban PHCs.
- Upgradation of 60 PHCs/CHCs, one each in every Constituency into Golden Jubilee PHCs/CHCs, with provision of basic IPHS standards equipment.
- The 15th Finance Commission Health Grants have helped my Government in strengthening field level diagnostic services and building-less Sub-Centers.
- 10 Block Public Health Units have been established, 109 CHCs and PHCs provided with diagnostic equipment to perform 44 number of tests, 376 Sub-Centres with diagnostic tools to carry out 13 mandated tests and 26 health facilities supplied with Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) for Cervical Cancer Screening for women above 35 years of age. 203 lab technicians have been trained to handle and operate the latest diagnostic equipment.

19. Hon'ble Members, my Government launched the Chief Minister Health Emergency Life Protection Services or the CM-HELPS initiative to transform emergency care processes in the State. Around 100 health personnel have been trained in emergency and critical care under CM HELPS and Mobile Medical Vehicles, Oxygen Express cum Vaccine Carriers and Patient Transport Ambulances are now operating in all districts under CM HELPS.
20. The Chief Minister Arogya Arunachal Yojana has so far covered 1,39,724 families with 5,94,420 individual members and the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana has so far enrolled 44,963 families with 1,19,687 members.
21. Together the two health assurance schemes cover more than 6.1 Lakh citizens in the State, and nearly 30,000 patients have availed tertiary health care benefits under the schemes, with our aim being coverage of all eligible beneficiaries to achieve universal health coverage in the State.
22. Nearly 10,000 newborn girls have received benefit under the Dulari Kanya scheme, with an additional 715 covered under the Golden Jubilee Daughters initiative.
23. 9 Drug Deaddiction and Rehabilitation Centers are now functional with a total capacity of 240 beds and nearly 3,700 addicts have been treated in the facilities.
24. Ayush Infrastructure strengthening has received a major boost under my Government. The establishment of two 50 bed integrated AYUSH Hospitals at Likabali and Bhalukphong are under progress. 68 AYUSH OPDs are now co-located at health facilities and 49 AYUSH Health & Wellness Centres have been made functional. Five Panchakarma Units are being established at various locations for providing holistic treatment to people.
25. The Human resource gap in the health sector has been reduced from 34% to 6% and the number of medical personnel available in the State are adequate and aligned to IPHS norms.
26. The Chief Minister Renal Replacement Society (CMRRS) provides aid to patients suffering from chronic renal disease and approx. Rs 17 Crores have been provided to patients suffering from chronic renal disease.
27. However, to further reduce the hardships of patients who go out of the State for renal transplantation, the Health Department has signed an MoU with Sir Gangaram Hospital New Delhi to establish a Centre of Excellence for Renal Sciences at TRIHMS with a view to carry out renal transplantation in the State itself.
28. Under the free diagnostic scheme, 8 Lakh individuals have benefitted from around 50 Lakh tests done.

29. As a result of significant infrastructure and human resource augmentation, Arunachal Pradesh has made commendable progress in various key Health Indicators as per National Family Health Survey Reports.
30. The State Child complete vaccination coverage rate has increased significantly from 71.4% to 76.4 %. Ante natal check-up in the first trimester have increased from 36.9% to 53.1% and Institutional deliveries have increased significantly from 52.2% to 79.2%. Sex ratio has increased from 958 to 997 females per 1000 males.
31. The Infant Mortality rate (IMR) of the state has reduced significantly from 22.9 in 2015-16 to 12.9 in 2020-21 as per NFHS data, which is the highest reduction of IMR in the country during the period. Similarly, Neonatal mortality rate (NNMR) has reduced from 11.8 in 2015-16 to 7.7 in 2020-21 as per NFHS.
32. Hon'ble Members, as we have seen, Shri Pema Khandu ji's team has transformed the healthcare landscape of the State such that, within the Amrit Kaal, we will achieve zero nutritional poverty, full coverage of child immunization, universal access to quality health-care, including through health assurance paving the way for physically, mentally and spiritually healthy and happy residents.
33. Hon'ble Speaker and Hon'ble Members,
34. Our guiding pillar 'Investment in Human Capital' is aligned with the 'Youth Power' guiding pillar of the 'Saptarshi'.
35. My Government envisions a future with accessible and quality education and learning available for all.
36. Through the focused approach of Hon'ble Chief Minister and his team, including dedicating the year 2021-22 to education, my Government has:
 - established 3,600 govt schools under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan while closing zero enrolment schools. The services of 900 Contractual Teachers were regularized salary of eligible teaching and non-teaching staff enhanced by 22% for improving motivation and teaching,
 - adopted and implemented the National Education Policy 2020 recommendations and included Tourism, Hospitality, and IT as vocational education courses in 99 Government Higher secondary schools and 70 Government Secondary schools,
 - taken up the initiative to publish study books in local languages,
 - integrated the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) and Public Financial Management System (PFMS) – becoming one of the first States to do so, and

- launched the Chief Minister's Golden Jubilee Merit Award for those who get admission to IITs, AIIMSs, IIMs and NLUs and introduced AADHAR base enrolment of students for correct data management.

37. Towards building the education infrastructure, the State has:

- invested Rs 1,000 Crores under Mission Shiksha during the Year of Education in 2021-22,
- established Sainik School at Niglok, East Siang and Tawang,
- initiated setting up 'Arun Gyan Kendra', a digital corner in our libraries for readers,
- installed modern technologies such as Atal Tinkering Lab, Vocational Lab, digital library, smart classroom, etc.,
- operationalized Vidhya Samiksha Kendra (VSK) to monitor performance of teacher and progress of the students – one of the first five States to do so,
 - established New Arunachal Pradesh State University at Pasighat,
 - made 50 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas operational and established 480 Early Childhood Care Centres, and
 - created assets like girl's hostel, boys' hostel, residential quarters, besides overall infrastructure development in many schools.

38. The results of my Government's efforts in developing the education sector are seen in:

- improved female literacy rate from 57.7% to 71.3% since 2015-16, and
- reduced school dropout rate from 9% to 2.3% in the past 7 years, falling much below the national average of 12.6%.
- 90% schools that have teachers posted as per norms and more than 1.1 Lakh students are receiving stipend and scholarships.
- Rs 1.3 Crores have been disbursed to 67 successful aspirants to IITs, AIIMSs, IIMs and NLUs.

39. To further improve the required infrastructure for quality education, my Government is upgrading 50 government schools to Golden Jubilee schools where all facilities will be available, with a combined special investment of Rs 500 Crores from the Union Government. Besides, 12 Eklavya Model Residential Schools are being set up with a budget of Rs 217 Crores to improve educational outcomes. The Government has also taken up 4 Government Engineering Colleges and 4 Government ITIs.

40. Hon'ble Members, through improving quality and outcomes in education, my Government aims to achieve 100% net enrolment, literacy, and bring the learning proficiency and overall skillsets of our youth at par with the global standards in the coming years.

41. When we talk about human capital and youth power, we think of the future. But we also need to safeguard and celebrate Arunachal Pradesh's ethnic and cultural diversity. To this objective, my Government has:

- established Tribal Culture Centers (TCC) in all district headquarters,
- initiated documentation of the diverse traditions of all tribes,
- published books, including folktales, hymns, prayer songs, proverbs, and sayings in the native languages of various tribes,
- established indigenous Gurukul Schools and acknowledged the role of priests by facilitating them with honorariums, and
- facilitated celebration of local festivals.

42. I understand we shall be holding an indigenous folk music festival in this month itself to highlight the essence of the State's indigenous culture and to promote our rich tapestry of folk songs and music. Additionally, my Government has decided to host an annual competitive folk songs and music festival with participation of all States and UTs in a bid to boost tourism and branding of the State as well as encourage cultural exchanges under the broader vision of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', which will take our indigenous folk songs and music to a larger audience outside the State.

43. Hon'ble Members, Arunachal is blessed with physically fit young sports stars who have been bringing laurels to the State and adding to our pride. Keeping this in mind, my Government has made significantly augmented the sports infrastructure in the last 8 years, including:

- a 15,000-capacity Golden Jubilee Outdoor Stadium,
- 20 multipurpose indoor sports halls,
- 7 new national-level stadiums,
- a National Centre for Sports Science Research – one of only six in India,
- a 20,700 square meter DK Badminton Academy, and
- 58 Khelo India Centres.

44. The outcomes of my Government's persistent approach in sports and youth affairs are evident in:

- the Sangay Lhaden Sports Academy having been recognized as the Khelo India State Centre of Excellence for Archery, Judo, and Weightlifting,
- Arunachal Pradesh getting the opportunity to host the prestigious Final Round of 77th Santosh Trophy National Football Championship,
- winning a staggering collection of 375 gold, 259 silver, and 266 bronze medals in the last eight years, and
- supporting various music, dance and branded competitive platforms for the youth of this State to showcase their talent and stand on their feet.

45. We shall reach another milestone when the 3rd Film and Television Institute of India is setup in Arunachal.

46. It is with a sense of pride I state that my Government was able to bring to life the history of our Brave-hearts, including 'Unsung Heroes', Martyrs and 'Freedom Fighters'.

Congratulating all those who were involved in the laborious field and academic research to properly document their lives from archival records, I applaud my Government's initiative of building a War Memorial and 13 State Memorial Parks to honor the memories and sacrifices of our unsung heroes, martyrs and freedom fighters.

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

48. Our guiding pillar 'Aatma Nirbhar Arunachal Pradesh' is aligned with the 'Unleashing the Potential' guiding pillar of the 'Saptarshi'.

49. To become 'Viksit Arunachal', we must become an Aatma Nibhar Arunachal first. That is why this is one of the key strategic pillars of our Vision, where key sectors must contribute to make the State self-sufficient.

50. In today's knowledge-based world order, innovation and entrepreneurship are the pathways to solve problems and build wealth for the State and its citizens.

To briefly mention a few initiatives, we have:

- set up an Arunachal Pradesh Innovation and Investment Park, which has incubated 66 startups to fulfill the dreams of our young innovators,
- launched the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Swavalamban Yojana or DDUSY where 828 entrepreneurs have received financing of Rs 125 Crores to set up their dream ventures,

- provided training to 570 youth under the Chief Minister's Yuva Kaushal Yojana (CMYKY) and National Apprentice Promotion Scheme,
- supported 856 beneficiaries through Chief Minister's Paryatan Vikas Yojana and Chief Minister's Paryatan Shiksha Yojana,
- trained nearly 34,000 youth under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, and
- facilitated Rs 342 Crores loans to 14,618 beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana.

51. The agri and allied sectors are the primary source of livelihoods in our State and My Government is proactively working on increasing the income of farmers, whereby:

- more than 96,000 farmers have been granted access to pre-authorized Kisan Credit Cards, reaching about 99% of the eligible beneficiaries,
- more than oneLakh Soil Health Cards have been issued, covering over 93% of all eligible beneficiaries,
- 4,649 farmers reaped benefits under the Prime Minister Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY),
- with about 93% saturation rate, nearly one Lakh farmers have received financial support through the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, and
- 2 Crude Palm Oil Factories are being established in Lower Dibang Valley and East Siang Districts.

52. Our unique initiatives, the 'Aatma Nirbhar Yojanas' have proved to be effective and popular among the farmers as we are providing much needed front-ended credit-linked subsidies to beneficiaries. Till date, we have been able to reach out and support:

- 9,862 beneficiaries under the AatmaNirbhar Krishi Yojana,
- 6,500 beneficiaries under the AatmaNirbharBagwani Yojana,
- 1,058 beneficiaries under the AatmaNirbhar Matsya Palan Yojana,
- 1,600 beneficiaries under the AatmaNirbhar Plantation Yojana, and
- 1,096 beneficiaries under the AatmaNirbharPashupalan Yojana.

53. The impact of the schemes could be estimated with the results our State has achieved.

- The total food grain production reached 5,20,777 metric tons,

- total pulse production reached 14,831 metric tons,
- total oilseed production reached 38,919 metric tons, and
- oil palm area expansion now covers 4,600 Hectares.

54. My Government launched 'Mission Krishi Veer' to connect our farmers to our jawans. Till date, 284 Metric Tons of locally produced fresh fruits & vegetables have been supplied to the Indian Army stationed in the State by our farmers, adding to their income and making them partners in defense of the motherland.

55. In the last few years, the State has opened up new avenues to export agriculture and allied sector products to the international market, thus integrating farmers with global supply chains and enhancing their incomes. Arunachal Pradesh Agricultural Marketing Board and M/s Lulu Hypermarket LLC, Dubai, have signed a 5 years MoU during the World Food India 2023 to promote export of agriculture and allied sector products from the state in the international market and oranges from Dambuk can now be seen in Dubai hypermarket.

56. Similarly, a MoU has been signed between Chirodor Organic FPC, Anjaw and Spice Sciences Pvt. Ltd. Nagpur for export of organic black cardamom from the State, resulting in export of Rs. 50 Lakhs during the year 22-23.

57. APAMB has further plans to export 50MT of buckwheat to Asia Pacific region in current season.

58. Hon'ble Members, my Government has made substantial progress in empowering the rural workforce. Recognizing the importance of sustainable livelihoods, Arunachal has:

- issued 3.11 Lakh job cards through Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), ensuring employment opportunities for rural households,
- distributed 500 vehicles under Arunachal Gramin Express Yojana,
- sanctioned 36,378 and constructed 19,299 houses under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin, whereas 4,938 houses have been completed out of the 6,892 houses sanctioned under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban,
- provided 49,247 LPG connections to BPL beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana,
- constructed 10,084 toilets under Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase II - which led to Arunachal being declared an Open Defecation Free State in 2017,

- registered 13.82 Lakh beneficiaries under National Food Security Act,
- provided and is still providing free rations to 1.5 Lakh beneficiaries under Antyodaya Anna Yojana,
- provided 4,50,000+ metric tonnes of rice grains to 8,40,000+ beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, and
- generated 8,200 employment opportunities through 1,025 new projects under Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme.

59. In addition, my Government's commitment towards women led development has translated into:

- supporting about 1.8 Lakhs pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children covered through 6,225 Anganwadi Centres,
- setting up 250 Mother's Kitchen across the State, wherein SHGs are engaged,
- mobilizing over 85,000 women into more than 9,300 Self Help Groups, and
- earmarking 50% of eligible scheme benefits for women led SHGs.

60. SHGs have, in fact, been a key partner of development for the State, for whom my Government has:

- earmarked 50% of the Aatma Nirbharschemes - 336 SHGs have benefitted under these schemes till date,
- trained over 1,100 SHGs, equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to thrive,
- facilitated credit linking with over 2,900 SHGs getting Rs 33 Crores bank credit, and
- registered 164 SHG group enterprises with 1,081 members under the PM Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprise Scheme.

61. With a record of empowering 500 SHGs, the State has extended further support to 1,000 SHGs with an allocation of Rs 10 Cr under the Arun Shree Rinn Yojana. Each of these groups now holds a fixed deposit of Rs 1 Lakh.

62. Geology and Mining is another sector which is helping in improving self-sufficiency. The State's mining royalties are increasing and my Government has notified the Arunachal Pradesh Minerals Regulation and Dealers Rules, 2023. The State is collaborating with the Central Mine Plan Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDIL) to explore

more coal blocks that will generate employment and revenues for the State in the near future.

63. Arunachal is bestowed with unparalleled natural beauty, making tourism one of our core competencies. We have 14 Tourist Circuits now, and we have seen 64% increase in tourist footfall in last 8 years.

64. I am happy to note that my Government is taking initiatives to support tourism entrepreneurs through various initiatives.

- Till date 741 individuals have been provided value-added subsidies under Chief Minister Paryatan Vikas Yojana and 226 youth were trained in adventure sports under Chief Minister's Skilled Advanced Certificate.

65. Hon'ble Members, in its commitment to maintain law and order, my Government has significantly strengthened the policing and judicial infrastructure. Over the last few years, my Government has:

- inducted 15,285 personnel and the addition of 418 new vehicles,
- expanded the police network with 68 new police stations and 21 Mahila Police Stations, with 7 being operational. Ziro and Seppa now have ISO-certified women police stations,
- embraced technology to enhance public safety through adoption of CCTV surveillance and migrated to the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) server and Citizen Portal,
- established 32 new Courts — a substantial increase from the meagre two in 2010, and
- began repurposing its First-ever Central Jail into a Correctional Home, with a capacity to accommodate 1,000 inmates.

66. Let me now applaud the State's efforts in social assistance programmes, where benefits have been provided to the vulnerable sections of society, who may otherwise be infirm in making ends meet. Along with providing significant top-ups, the Social Assistance programmes cover:

- 48,722 old age beneficiaries,
- 7,168 widow beneficiaries, and
- 3,435 Divyang beneficiaries.

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

68. Our guiding pillar 'Infrastructure Development through Synergy and Convergence' is aligned with two guiding pillars of the 'Saptarshi' - 'Reaching the last mile' and 'Infrastructure & Investment'.
69. It always gives me immense satisfaction in sharing with you the unprecedented progress achieved by the State by making substantial investments towards enhancing connectivity, fostering cultural exchange, boosting tourism, and facilitating trade.
70. In a historical development, seen only after 75 years of independence, the State now has its first full-fledged Donyi-Polo Airport at Hollongi, Itanagar, which has recently obtained all-weather license.
71. Arunachal now boasts of 4 airports at Hollongi, Pasighat, Tezu, and Ziro – all developed within the last 8 years.
72. Over the past eight years, Arunachal Pradesh has witnessed a remarkable surge in road infrastructure. In this timeframe, despite challenges of terrain and weather, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Pema Khandu and his team have constructed an extensive 19,863 km road network and successfully developed 2,482 km of national highways.
73. As a result of focused investment in the road sector, in the last 8 years, there has been a 91% increase in length of highways from 1,042 km in 2015-16 to 1,992 km in 2022-2023 and 64% increase in overall road length.
74. The road density has increased from 36.65 Km/Sq.Km to 65.99 Km/Sq.Km since 2015-16 and 195 bridges have been built to connect the previously unconnected areas.
75. We can look ahead to an additional 2,857 km of national highways, which are slated for construction, with a union government allocation of Rs 44,000 Crores.
76. 105 roads, covering 1,022 km and connecting 125 habitations, with an estimated cost of Rs 2,205 Crores have been sanctioned under the Vibrant Village Programme.
77. In other connectivity initiatives, 2,401 villages have been provided with 4G towers and 3.02 Lakh rural households electrified through SAUBHAGYA and DeenDayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana.
78. In our attempt to ensure water security and water supply to all our citizens, the State has exceeded our target by developing 2,044 Amrit Sarovar sites and achieved 98.29% coverage of Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) under the Jal Jeevan Mission – providing 2,30,275 households with tap water - and ensuring that 4,113 villages have attained the status of 'Har Ghar Jal' villages.
79. Hon'ble Members, I am pleased to inform you that my Government's efforts in harnessing sustainable energy sources have borne fruit. In the past few years, power sector infrastructure has been augmented significantly with:

- operationalizing 72 hydel stations in the Western Zone and 88 hydel stations in the Eastern Zone,
- commissioning the Roing-Chapakhowa 132 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line - having linkage with North Eastern grid to overcome frequent power disruptions,
- pioneering use of latest 33 kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) technology with their installations at Daporijo, Aalo and Dukhumpani,
- installing a 100 KW Off-grid Solar Power Plant at Anini, and
- installing 199 solar water pumps under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam UtthanMahabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM).

80. Towards reformation of the Power sector, my Government has:

- adopted the Arunachal Pradesh Energy Conservation Building Code-2022 (APECBC-2022),
- implemented Online Billing & Payment System with more than 1 (One) Lakh consumers onboarded onto the platform, and
- taken up the key infrastructure project estimated at Rs 1,092 Crores for distribution infrastructure development along with extension of electricity network to border areas.

81. It gives me immense satisfaction to recount the outcomes achieved by Shri Pema Khandu ji and his Team Arunachal in their determination to bring electricity to every household in the State during the last 8 years:

- a total of 5,258 villages have been electrified since 2015-16 indicating a coverage increase of 25%,
- the State's Power Generation Capacity has increased from 405 MW to 1259.90 MW,
- a total of 2,466 Smart Street Lights have been installed in the towns of Itanagar, Tawang, Seppa, Namsai and Changlang, and
- 6,093 solar streetlights have illuminated 712 villages across the 13 border districts - enhancing safety and security for villagers during night hours, particularly women and girls.

82. Hon'ble Members, the State's Waste Management infrastructure has also seen significant improvements over the years. Some of the worthwhile initiatives are:

- the State's first Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) with a capacity of 200 Kilo Liters per Day (KLD) was set up for rejuvenation of the Yagamso River in a record time of 5 months,
- the Itanagar Capital Complex wastes, about 44,117 cubic meters of it, are being 100% extracted and processed at Karsingsa and Chimpu sites,
- the State's first Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) is ready at Chimpu,
- Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) with a cumulative capacity of 9 Tons Per Day (TPD) are operational at Namsai, Ziro and Basar, and
- a policy for comprehensive development of the MRFs to increase our waste processing capacity to 47 Tons Per Day (TPD) has been adopted.

83. Hon'ble Members, development initiatives to assist our armed forces in guarding and protecting our borders, with ready cooperation of our civilian populace living in the harshest of terrains, another focus area of my Government.

84. The Vibrant Village Programme (VVP) is a shining example of synergy and convergence to create infrastructure in the remotest areas of the State. With the motto 'connectivity to activity to vibrancy' in our border areas:

- 1,452 villages have been systematically mapped,
- 455 priority villages have been identified for development, and
- 252 border habitations have been connected through the construction of 2,506 km of roads, to improve ease of living of remote rural communities.

85. As a result of these interventions, we have started witnessing the welcome reverse migration in many border area localities. I am confident that sustained focus of the Government on the VVP will further promote activity and vibrancy in these areas.

86. Hon'ble Members, with these synergetic development approach of my Government towards infrastructure and connectivity, I am sanguine that Arunachal will reach a stage in the next 10 years where 100% of habitations are connected with road, piped water, power and telecom services, 100% waste is processed, and all are done through 100% renewable energy. This is the vision of Hon'ble Chief Minister and his Cabinet for a 'Viksit Arunachal', contributing to 'Viksit Bharat'.

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

88. With over 80% forest cover, a diverse flora and fauna and major Himalayan streams, lakes, and rivers, Arunachal is among the most ecologically gifted States.

89. Here too, under the progressive and future-oriented leadership of Hon'ble chief Minister, Shri Pema Khandu ji and his team has seen this Government continually strive to protect our ecology and environment, identifying and overcoming vulnerabilities.

90. 'Environment Protection & Climate Resilience' is the sixth key strategic pillar of our Vision 2047, aligned with the 'Green Growth' guiding pillar of the 'Saptarshi', which is being taken forward with 'Sabka Prayas', with the Government proactively mobilizing citizens towards sustainability through several initiatives.

- In a noteworthy development, the Council of Ministers adopted the landmark Pakke Tiger Reserve 2047 Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change Resilient and Responsive Arunachal Pradesh to accelerate comprehensive, smart, climate resilient and inclusive development.
- The first such sub-national Ministerial level climate declaration in India, and possibly globally, the Pakke Declaration, with its five broad 'Panch-Dhara' domains and underlying 75 climate resilient strategies are being implemented through climate-tagged budgeting approach.
- I am glad to note that my Government has so far financed 89 climate actions, categorized into climate change adaptation – Rs 526 Crores, climate change mitigation – Rs 64 Crores and hybrid actions - Rs 137 Crores, respectively.
- The Arunachal Mission LiFE campaign saw massive participation of 55,961 Pro-Planet People. During the campaign, 52,114 'Lifestyle for the Environment' pledges were taken by 3.76% of the State population as against the National average of 1.2%, showcasing an innate desire on the part of the citizens to go green.
- Environment Management Plans have been notified for all the 25 Districts.

91. In other noteworthy initiatives, the State has:

- undertaken 2,822 hectares forestry plantation under the Green India Mission and eco-restored nearly 2,189 hectares of degraded open forests,
- rehabilitated shifting cultivation in 1,277 hectares and restored more than 12 hectares of Wetlands,
- initiated nature-based entrepreneurship such as the Bamboo Incubation Centre, and eco-tourism projects at Ziro, Pasighat, Namdapha National Park, Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary, Yarping, Aalo and Balem, and

- expanded forest cover through compensatory afforestation in 26,440 hectares area and created the Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) to help in better protecting the Tiger Reserves of Pakke, Namdapha and Kamlang.

92. Hon'ble Members, Arunachal has 40% of India's hydropower potential, which can spearhead the nation's aim for green energy, and also generate huge revenues for the State. In the last 8 years, my Government has successfully:

- commissioned the Payu Micro Hydrel Station (MHS) at Pinchi with a total capacity of 500 Killo-Watt (kW),
- commissioned the 600 MW Kameng Hydro Power Project which the Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated and dedicated to the nation,
- commissioned a total of 17 Projects till date under the Golden Jubilee Border Village Illumination Programme, and
- signed agreements with 3 central PSUs for kick-starting 13 stalled Mega Hydro Projects of 12,523 Mega-Watt (MW) capacity.

93. These projects entail a cumulative investment of close to Rs 1.4 Lakh Crores and will generate an annual revenue of Rs 10,000 Crores, when completed.

94. Overall, the State Government has invested a total of Rs 1,013.8 Corers in the Hydropower sector in the last 7 years, with the following singular impacts:

- 213% increase in our installed hydropower capacity from 405 MW in 2015-16 to 1,270 MW in 2022-23,
- making Arunachal the second power surplus State in the North-East, and
- the construction of the Subansiri Lower Hydroelectrical Project with a capacity of 2,000 MW is nearing completion, making it the Largest Hydropower Dam in the country at present, which will only be surpassed by the 2,880 MW Dibang Multipurpose Project, when completed.

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

96. In conclusion, I would like to state with great personal satisfaction, that the six development pillars or priorities of my Government have laid a strong foundation in progressing towards a 'happy' society, which is constructively engaged in the sustainable development of our beloved State.

97. The Government, very ably and proficiently led by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Pema Khandu ji has left no stone unturned to make our vision of a 'happy', 'cohesive', and inclusive' society and in this we are extremely grateful to the generous support provided by the Government of India and the blessings of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, for all our efforts and priorities.

98. We have all been witness to the record pace set in all sectors, whether it is providing Ghar, Bijli, Paani, Swacchta, Sadak, rail, air and port connectivity to people. Wherever you see, the extreme dedication to the Nation and State through 'kartavya; and 'sewa' bhaav' of my Government is reflected.
99. From third largest start-up ecosystem to improved road safety, port & rail traffic, highways, decline in death rate, improved sex ratio, and substantial reduction in teacher-pupil ratio our 'Vikas' Yatra has gone from strength to strength.
100. Fulfilling the aspirations of the youth, livelihood generation through self-employment opportunities while continuing with our investment in infrastructure for improved connectivity has been and will be the vision of my Government for a prosperous and happy Arunachal Pradesh in the Amrit Kaal, and becoming a 'developed' state of a 'developed' nation!

Jai Arunachal,

Jai Hind,

Jai Bharat!