ADDRESS

OF

HIS EXCELLENCY

LT GENERAL NIRBHAY SHARMA,
PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (RETD),
GOVERNOR, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

IN

THE THIRTEENTH SESSION

OF

THE FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

ON

4TH MARCH 2014
I am pleased to welcome you all to the Thirteenth Session of the Fifth Legislative Assembly. At the very outset I extend my best wishes for a successful conduct of the business proposed to be transacted during the session - Budgetary and legislative.

During the 11th Five Year Plan Period (2007-12), our state has clocked an average growth rate of 9.4%, well above the national rate of 8%. During the first year of the Twelfth Five Year Plan i.e. 2012-13, our growth rate was 5.91% vis-à-vis the national rate of 4.96%. My Government has in the last few years made remarkable progress in the developmental history of Arunachal Pradesh and chartered some of the hitherto unexplored areas of Governance. I shall now dwell upon some of these achievements and also outline the future vision and action plan of my Government.

1) Infrastructure

Infrastructure in the form of road, rail, air and telecom connectivity is an imperative for development of any state. In this regard, My Government has made considerable progress and also laid the foundation for a robust infrastructural facility in the State.

Under the Prime Minister’s Special Economic Package, which is estimated to be about Rs 33,000 Crore, various projects of importance are in progress such as:-

(a) 2319 Km road project including the two-lane Trans Arunachal Highway, District Connectivity and the four lane National Highway are under various stages of completion and the majority of these roads will be complete by June 2016.

(b) The State will have its first railway station at Naharlagun and trains are likely to be operational by March 2014. The broad gauging of the Rangiya- Murkongselek stretch has progressed to 84% and will be ready by December 2014. This will cater to our requirement in the eastern part of the State.

(c) Air Connectivity will also get a major fillip with work already started in ALGs at Ziro, Pasighat, Aalo, Mechukha and Tezu. The Vijaynagar Airfield is already operational and a Greenfield airport at Tawang is under active consideration by the Govt. of India.

(d) Telecom Connectivity will also get a major boost with the Govt. of India actively working on laying the OFC cables and installing microwave transponders in remote villages to provide mobile and Internet connectivity.

(e) Rural connectivity under the PMGSY has also made considerable progress with 654 road projects of 3738.82 KM already completed, connecting 626 Habitations by 2012-13. In 2013-14, 185.58 KM connecting 10 habitations have been completed.
(f) State of the Art Civil Secretariat is 80% complete and will be ready during the year and bring the seat of governance under a single roof for speedy decision-making.

(g) The prestigious Itanagar Water Supply Project is complete and will be commissioned shortly. This will meet the safe drinking water requirement of the State Capital.

State Govt. Initiatives

a. My Government has also undertaken construction of District Secretariats (Mini Secretariats) in all the districts and work has already started in 8 locations in the first phase. This will facilitate timely and quick service delivery to the citizens of the Districts.

b. My government has accorded top priority to sports and therefore state of the Art indoor and outdoor stadia are being constructed in five districts.

c. MLA Apartments Convention centre, State legislative Assembly Complex, G+5 accommodation for Senior Govt. Officers and Up gradation of the Arunachal State Hospital are also under varying stages of completion.

2. Social Sector

The social sector especially Health and Education are the backbone of any vibrant and a rich society. My Government has therefore given utmost importance to these sectors and besides making available physical infrastructure; special emphasis has been given to Human capital in the form of teachers and doctors.

With about 4 Lakh students enrolled in the primary to higher Secondary School and 0.32 Lakh students in the Higher and Technical education, the overall literacy rate of 73% has inched closer to the national average of 74%. The Teacher: Student ratio has also improved with recruitment of more teachers. The salaries of the teachers of the KGBV schools have also been enhanced.

In the Higher and Technical Education, in addition to the 12 colleges, one new college has been established in Geku. 5 (Five) out of 14 sanctioned Polytechnics will start from this year at Pasighat, Dirang, Laying, Roing and Namsai. Govt. has approved establishment of 6 model degree Colleges and three are under consideration. 110 new Assistant Professors have been recruited and posted in the colleges. The National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology at Pasighat has been inaugurated recently. PG programmes for Hindi will start from this session in addition to History and Geography in JN College, Pasighat.
In the health sector, a major path breaking policy initiative in the form of the Chief Minister’s Universal Health Insurance Scheme has been launched on 20th February 2014 and will be operational by the beginning of the next fiscal year benefitting 2.60 lakh families which includes the State Govt. Employees. With this the health of all the Citizens will be insured up to Rupees 2 (Two) lakhs.

To provide basic amenities for decent living to our rural brothers, My Government has under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) constructed 15000 houses during 2011-12 and 2012-13, under MG-NREGA, 1 crore man-days were generated during the last two years.

In the urban areas, under JNNURM, 11 projects have been completed and commissioned in all respect; remaining 7 projects will be completed within this March which includes ISBT, Skywalk, Housing Complex etc. Municipal Solid Waste Management project for Capital Complex, Itanagar with a project cost of Rs 1194.38 Lakhs has been completed, Under Rajiv Awas Yojna, a Rental Housing at Itanagar with 576 Dwelling Units is under construction and under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), 158 beneficiaries trained, 8 Women Groups benefited and 1946 man days of employment generated during the year.

Women and Child development is another priority area and My Government brought more than 2.5 lakh beneficiaries under the ICDS with 6028 Anganwadi Centers by promoting all round development of mother & children through supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check up, preschool education etc. For all round development of adolescent girls, SABLA scheme was launched, Arunachal Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights has been recently notified. The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) was launched for providing justice to Juveniles / welfare of Street Children. State Adoption Agencies & Shishu Greha established to promote In-Country Adoption. Child Care Institution and Juvenile Justice Board established in all districts. Juvenile Home have been established in Pasighat and Prohibition of Child Marriage Rules have been notified.

Multi Sectoral Development Program coverage has been increased to 26 blocks of 10 districts with 6728 projects undertaken till 2011-12 and during 2012-13, 1119 projects will be undertaken in Housing, Education & Health Sectors.

My Government has also extended support to the Senior Citizens and Widows. Under the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, Rs.200/- p.m. to persons between age 61-79 yrs and Rs.500/- p.m. to persons above 80 yrs has been implemented benefiting 30000 persons every year. Through the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme assistance of Rs 300/- has been given benefiting 1900 Widows and by the Indira Gandhi National Family Benefit Scheme, Rs.20,000/- per year per family for 500 poor families will be given from this year onwards.
The differently abled citizens have a special place in my Government and 4839 Aids & Appliances have been distributed till date, financial assistance upto Rs.10,000 to Disabled Persons as one time grant for establishing income generating ventures has been disbursed benefiting 1800 such individuals.

Out of 5612 habitations, safe drinking water has been made available to 2848 habitations and 2764 habitations have been partially covered.

My government is one of the first states in the country to adopt the National Food Security Act. Under this Act, 66.31% of Rural and 51.55% of Urban population will have access to 5kg rice per person per month at Rs 3 per Kg. The rest of the population will be covered as eligible general beneficiaries. To ensure that the food reaches the beneficiary, my Government will put in place an end-to-end computerisation of TPDS in 17 locations of 9 Districts.

3. Economic Sector

Agriculture

I am happy to inform that the total crop production achieved during 2012-13 stands at 6.90 lakh MT as against 6.32 lakh MT during 2011-12 with an annual growth rate of 9.2%. During 2013-14, the total crop production is expected to reach 7.20 Lakh MT. The state has received the “Krishi Karman Commendation Award” from the President of India for higher food crop production for two years during 2010-11 and 2012-13. The 1st ARUNACHAL KRISHI EXPO-2012 was held wherein 258 enterprises participated in the Expo and was attended by about 25000 farmers of the state. 395 ha Jhum land has been brought under settled cultivation by land terracing and 136 WAY SIDE MARKET SHED constructed during the last 2 years and are being utilized by the farmers. The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) was launched in 2012-13 covering an area of 4600 ha resulting in rice production of 263000 MT, with increase of 8000 MT over the previous year. To further improve productivity and encourage double cropping, the irrigation potentials- minor, medium and major are being harnessed. The academic sessions of the New College of Agriculture has started from campus at Pasighat under the Central Agriculture University (CAU), Imphal this year.
Horticulture

With distinct horticulture advantage in the State, My Government has accorded top priority to the sector and today Arunachal Pradesh has emerged as the largest producer of Kiwi in the country. To boost the sector 58,639 beneficiaries, covering 21,264 Ha area under various crops have been assisted for horticulture related activities which includes 17,830 women beneficiaries. A separate Horticulture Marketing Board to assist the farmers in marketing of their produce has been created. A Horticulture Research and Development Branch for development of quality planting materials using local germ-plasm, conservation and documentation of local bio-resources based on unique local condition has been set up in the State.

Animal Husbandry & Veterinary

The Milk processing plant in Karsingsahas been revived and made functional with an average of 1700 packets of milk processed for marketing daily.

Trade & Commerce

My Government laid special emphasis on cultivation of Tea and Rubber and a Mission Mode Project (MMP) was launched. To promote Tea cultivation, a pilot project on tea cultivation-'Share a Cup of Tea' was implemented successfully in East Siang district. The Tea Board of India has set up a branch office at Itanagar and the Rubber Board has agreed to open a branch here soon. To educate and impart training to the small tea growers, my government has started the innovative ‘Chai Pathshala’.

My Government is pursuing the Central Government for opening the Still-well Road and the Donsengmang Road to facilitate trade with Bhutan and the South East Asian Nations through Myanmar.

Textile & Handicraft

After a hiatus of ten years, the State participated in the prestigious India International Trade Fair at PragatiMaidan, New Delhi in 2012-13 and bagged the bronze medal. During 2013-14, State bagged the gold medal as the best participant in the same event. I congratulate the department of textile and handicraft.

Transport

With a fleet of 229 buses, the public transport system, which is the nerve of the state, is being made operational on 113 routes, connecting almost all district headquarters by day/night service. The State Transport has generated revenue of 15.40 Crore during the year 2012-13.
4. Law and Order

On the Law and Order front, considerable improvement is visible. My Government has undertaken a lot of vertical and horizontal interventions in tackling the Law and order scenario of the state. I am happy to inform that the ratio of cases registered to cases solved/chargesheets filed has seen remarkable improvement. The Police have solved crimes of murder, robbery in record time.

During the year, record recruitment of about 2680 police personnel including 4 DSPs and special recruitment of 200 women has been done. Emphasis has also been given to women related crimes and accordingly, My Government has started the “All Women Police Station” in Itanagar. 15 new police Stations have also been notified and will be made functional shortly. For effective policing, two range offices have been setup at Namsai and Pasighat.

PCR vans for 24X 7 policing have been approved by my Government and already made operational in the capital complex. This is reported to be very effective and the petty crimes have seen drastic reduction. One Battalion of CRPF has already been sanctioned and will be in place shortly.

5. Judiciary

To strengthen all the organs of democracy, my Government has undertaken the much-needed process of separation of Judiciary from the Executive. 3 (three) erstwhile Fast Track Courts in the State have been converted into regular Courts of Additional District & Sessions Judge and the 3 (three) Additional District & Sessions Judges have since been appointed and posted at Pasighat, Bomdila and Basar. Further, 5 (Five) Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum-Civil Judge Sr. Division and 5 (Five) Judicial Magistrate -cum - Civil Judge Jr. Division have been appointed.

6. Employment

My Government is alive to the problem of unemployment and underemployment. Accordingly a systematic approach has been put in place to tackle this problem. Employment Generation Council and the State Skill Development Council are already in place with an objective to firstly provide skills and than identify gainful employment opportunity for the youth of the State. One Lakh Jobs by the end of the 12th Five Year Plan is the target for the state. In the last two years, My Government has achieved the targets.
The Job Mela conducted on 30th August last year was a step in this direction. As many as 33 VTPs participated, 14000 candidates registered and 9012 candidates were selected. 2020 youths are undergoing training and 6992 will be trained shortly. Similar Job Melas have been organised in the District Headquarters to take job opportunities to the doorsteps of our youths.

My government has also raised the minimum wages from the existing wages by 90% for unskilled, Semi skilled and skilled labourers.

My Government with the active support of the Government of India has recently launched the phase III of NERCORMP with a tentative allocation of Rs 540 Crore, a livelihood and rural development project aimed to transform the intervened lives of the poor and marginalized sections of the society. Three districts of Tirap, Longding and Changlang in Arunachal Pradesh apart from two districts of Manipur will be covered under this project.

For rest of the state, My Government has launched the State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) to promote livelihood through self help groups under which till date 1700 women SHGs have been formed.

7. Decentralization of Power:

My Government has sincerely worked and achieved decentralization of powers to the Panchayats and Municipalities in letter and spirit. The theme of the recently concluded Statehood Day was aptly chosen as “Decentralisation and Empowering People”.

The Municipal Elections for Itanagar and Pasighat Municipal Councils were conducted on 16th May, 2013 with 30 Municipal Councillors in Itanagar and 12 in Pasighat and Empowered Standing Committee for Itanagar and Pasighat Municipal Councils with 5 and 3 members respectively have already been constituted. 14 out of 18 Functions has been transferred and the rest are being transferred in a phased manner.

Panchayat elections were also successfully conducted last year and devolution of power on 29 subjects has been effected successfully. My Government has constituted the 2nd State Finance Commission under section 243-I of the Constitution of India to review and recommend the financial devolution process to the Panchayats. Infrastructure in the form of office building has been constructed in 10 districts. Under RGPSA, 68 office buildings have been sanctioned for Gram Panchayat Office. To strengthen manpower for effective governance, recruitment for 591 Computer Operators and 177 Technical Assistants have already been completed.
8. Fiscal Reforms and Revenue Generation:

My Government has enforced a package of economic measures for maintaining fiscal discipline and controlling wasteful expenditure. Further, on the supply side, after a slew of measures to plug revenue leakages and without imposing new taxes, My Government has been successful in mobilizing States own resources of Rs 981 Crore during 2012-13 showing an increase of 45% compared to Rs.678 Crore during 2011-12. During the current year, the revenue collection is estimated to be Rs. 1100Crore clocking a growth of record 72.93%.

As a welfare measure for the Government Employees, House Rent Allowance (HRA) @ 10% of basic pay per month for the regular Government Employees who do not have rent free government accommodation has been approved. The wages of contingency employees has been enhanced by Rs.500/- per month and a MoU with State Bank of India has been signed for offering benefits of salary package to regular Government Employees having bank account in State Bank of India. As many as 32 branches of the Apex bank, mostly in rural areas are brought under the core banking solution (CBS) providing easy access to banking facilities.

9. Hydro and Tourism – The Multiplier effect:

Hydropower and Tourism are the two sectors, if harnessed sustainably will act as the force multiplier on the overall development of the state. The hydropower potential estimated in the State from the mega hydroelectric projects is around 58676.40 MW. 157 projects have been allotted to CPSUs, IPPs and also for development on Joint Venture Mode (PPP Mode) with the State Govt., with total installed capacity of 46357.20 MW. Out of the total allotted projects 3 projects Subansiri Lower HEP, Kameng HEP and Pare HEP] with total installed capacity of 2710 MW are under execution.

With so much of diversity in natural beauty and tribal heritage, our state can be a most sought after destination of the world. My Government has realized and taken steps to take advantage of the sector.

Our state has been voted “Favourite Upcoming Tourist Destination’ in 2013 by leading travel magazine ‘Outlook travellers’ and ‘Green State of Year Award’ was conferred in 2013.State’s tourism potentials were showcased at WTM, London, ITB, Berlin, IITF, International Tourism Mart at Guwahati in 2013. The 2nd ITM was hosted at Tawang on 18th – 20th October’ 2013 where about 400 delegates participated including 68 foreign delegates representing 23 countries and a record 204 B2B meetings were held with 66 international delegates from 20 countries with our local tour operators during the ITM Tawang posing a growth of 275%. Arunachal Tourism also bagged two National Tourism Awards- Best State for Clean India Campaign and Special Prize for use of IT in Tourism Promotion.
10. Sports & Youth Affairs

My Government has accorded top status to the field of sports to instill a sense of healthy competition and also to promote brotherhood. In the process, we have also identified some very promising sporting talents in the state and many have brought laurels to the State. To mention a few names- Shri Jimjang Deru, Mrs Anshu Jamsenpa, Mr. Nima Lama, Miss Maselo Mihu, Miss Sorang Yumi, Shri Nobin Jamoh and Laa talar.

11. Information Technology & E-Governance

IT and its optimum utilization for effective governance and service delivery is an area my Government has given due importance. A series of IT interventions have been put in place in this regard. To mention a few- the online ILP, State Service Delivery Gateway and State Portal, SWAN, e- Procurement, E-Samaj, BPR of the Planning Department, online registration of births and deaths etc.

12. Disaster Management

My Government has put in place a comprehensive institutional mechanism for management and mitigation of disaster. Recently, the unit of State Disaster Response Force has been raised and the process of disaster audit of Ziro and Itanagar has been planned in the first phase.

13. Flagship Programmes

My Government has undertaken many flagship programs, which are directly beneficiary oriented, with the philosophy of inclusive growth as the guiding light.

a. Chief Minister’s Talent Award Scheme was introduced in 2011-12 to instil a spirit of competition and academic excellence amongst young students of Class x and XII Board examinations to be provided with a free laptop and a cash award of Rs 10,000/- benefiting a total of 1123 students. This year, the benefit has been broad based to benefit more students.

b. Chief Minister’s Disability Pension Scheme was introduced during 2011-12 to assist the disabled persons by giving pension at the rate of Rs 500/- per month (which has been enhanced to Rs. 1,000/- per month from CFY). During 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14, a total of 922 persons covering 18 districts have been benefited from this programme.
c. **Chief Minister’s Livelihood Mission School (CMLMS)** was launched with the objective to provide skills to the youth (aged 18 to 25) to earn a decent livelihood. The School is operating from Nampong in Changlang and similar schools are planned in the other districts.

d. **Chief Minister’s Loin Loom Scheme** was launched with the objective to help local weavers benefiting 6424 selected genuine handloom weavers.

e. **Chief Minister’s ParyatanVikasYojana** was launched during the year 2012-13 to provide subsidized tourist cabs to educated unemployed youths benefiting 100 unemployed youth. This year the scheme has been extended to the entire state to benefit 161 unemployed youth.

f. **Chief Minister’s Award for Excellence in Quality Education** was launched to encourage and recognize the dedication of the Principals, Head Masters and Teachers in schools. Following awards will be given under this program:
   i. Best School Award- One in each District- Rs.1.00 lakh each to be spent on skill based learning materials.
   ii. Best Three Principals/ In-charge Principals in the State- Rs. 50,000.00/- each.
   iii. Best Three Male Teachers in the State- Rs. 50,000.00/- each.
   iv. Best Three Female Teachers in the State- Rs. 50,000.00/- each.

g. A new Scheme ‘VIDYA’ was launched for unmarried Girl students of Class V for continuing school education with an initial deposit of Rs.5000/- only.

h. For removing the barrier for girls to attend the schools regularly, Sanitary Napkins provided for better hygiene for girl students and benefiting approximately 82,419 girl students.

i. **Arunachal Krishi Karman Award** has been instituted for best performing district, farmers and Extension workers in agriculture.

j. **Chief Minister’s Agri-Mechanisation Programme** was launched from 2012-13 to assist the farming community for purchase of costly farm machineries benefiting 1700 farmers. Till date 100 Tractors, 300 Power Tillers, 700 Pumping sets and 600 PDM have been distributed to the farmers thereby generating 1,00,000 lakh man-days.

k. **Chief Minister’s Mission Mode Project (MMP)** on plantation of Tea and Rubber crops. Under this programme an amount of Rs.500.00 lakh for tea growers and Rs. 1000.00 lakh for rubber growers has been earmarked during 2013-14.
l. **Chief Minister Universal Health Insurance Scheme**: The benefit of insurance to be extended to 2 lakh families of the State for attaining the objective of ‘Good Health for All’.

m. **Chief Minister’s Skill Development Programme** for unemployed youth.

n. **Chief Minister’s Football and Volleyball Trophy** has been launched to promote Football and Volleyball games at block, district and State level in both man and woman category.

14. I am happy to announce that my government has decided to construct a Martyr's Memorial here in the state capital to pay homage and respects to all the martyrs.

15.I also join all the members of this august house in taking pride for the historic moment, when Honorable President of India, ShriPranab Mukherjee addressed the legislative assembly in a special session.

16. Honourable Members, as you assemble in this august house, each and every citizen of the state looks up to each one of you with lots of hope and expectation as your deliberations directly impact their lives. I am confident that the aspirations of our people will be paramount in your decisions.

17. As I conclude, I am reminded of the Talisman of Mahatma Gandhiji, I quote

> “When ever you are in doubt apply the following test: Recall the face of the poorest and weakest man you have seen and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him? Then you will see your doubt melting away”.

With this talisman, I am sanguine that no decision can be tough to take.

15. Lastly, I convey my best wishes for a very successful and fruitful deliberations and completion of all business proposed during the current session.

**Jai Hind, Jai Arunachal!**