**Draft Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister,**

**77th Independence Day**

# Amrit Kaal and PanchPran

**Dear Sisters and Brothers of Arunachal Pradesh**,

1. As I stand before you on this auspicious occasion of 77th Independence Day, the echoes of our ancestors and the hopes of generations to come merge in a symphony of dreams. A dream of an Arunachal that rises like the sun, strong, vibrant, and resilient, marching towards its destiny during the Amrit Kaal. Together, we are the composers of our glorious future.
2. In the tapestry of our great nation, each thread is a testament to the sacrifice and valour of our freedom fighters, unsung heroes, and martyrs.They struggled heroically, not for themselves but for us, for our bright future. On this Independence Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to the values of democracy, unity and integrity of the country.
3. Recalling the inspiring message of our revered Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji “To live for the motherland each day, every moment and every particle of life will be our true tribute to the freedom fighters.” Today, we bow in reverence to their memories and pledge never to let their sacrifices be in vain.
4. We stand at a crossroads, where the paths of tradition and modernity intertwine. Our land is blessed with abundant beauty,resources, and cultural heritage. From the valleys to the peaks, our commitment for developmentacross geographies is unwavering.
5. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of Team Arunachal including Citizens, Community-Based Organizations, farmers, women, youth, entrepreneurs, doctors, engineers, lawyers, investors, public servants,police,andarmed forcesin accelerating the development of Arunachal. Through our collective efforts, dedication, and determination we will build a “Vikasit Arunachal”.
6. Arunachal is not just a state; it's a promise. A promise of unity, inclusive growth, and prosperity for all. We are, as we have always been, dutybound to fulfil the aspirations of every child, every youth, every woman, every farmer, and every family. This is not a distant dream but a tangible goal, a goal that we shall achieve through dedication, collaboration, and relentless pursuit of excellence. Our journey towards development is about transcending barriers of identity, region, tribe, creed,religion, as well as the barriers of our tough terrain.
7. In the coming 25 years, which marks 100 Years of Independence and 75 years of Arunachal, our utmost endeavour will be to transform Arunachalinto a VikasitState. Our journey shall echo the vision of“Param Vaibhav Bharat”,a nation that stands tall on the global stage, embodying the principles of justice, equality, and progress for all.
8. As we unfurl our TIRANGA which symbolizes resolve, strength and shared vision for a brighter India, let us take the pledge to work together as responsible citizens, fostering harmony, peace, and progress in every corner of our beloved nation.
9. The "PanchPran"- five pledges urged by Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, include the pursuit of development, discarding the mindset of servitude, taking pride in our inheritance, celebrating unity, and upholding the principles of 'Antyodaya'. This has captured the imagination of the entire country and is internalized by the Arunachaleeyouth.
10. The resolve of ‘Vikasit Bharat’ and ‘Vikasit Arunachal’ requires commitment from each one of us to work hand in hand.It compels us to contribute our best in shaping India's journey towards becoming a developed nation and ‘Vishwa-Guru’ by the time we celebrate 100 years of our independence in 2047.
11. The pledge of ‘Gulami se Mukti’ is to break free from the shackles of the colonial mindset.We have transformed with the times while maintaining our heritage, our traditions, and our way of life.
12. ‘Virasat par Garv’ – taking pride in our legacy requires us to cherish and celebrate our rich cultural, spiritual, and historical heritage, recognizing our significant contributions to the world and drawing strength from our collective past.
13. The pledge of ‘Ekta aur Ekjut-ta’ strengthens our unity, solidarity, and fraternity. As a nation with countless languages, cultures, and traditions, our true strength lies in our unity. We must understand and appreciate the diversity that binds us together.Our Arunachal, home to 26 major tribes and over 100 minor tribes, is a mini-Bharat, a living example of unity in diversity.
14. ‘Nagriko ka Kartavya’ – is the fifth and most crucial pillar, which calls for the fulfilment of our duties as citizens with honesty and dedication. Let us take the pledge to fulfil our duties as responsible citizens and contribute towards building the Arunachal of our dreams.
15. These PanchPransare worthy guiding principles to shape our actions and aspirations to bring about the State’s and India's transformation during this Amrit Kaal.

# Meri Mati MeraDesh

**Dear Citizens,**

1. Last year, we united under the banner of the ‘Har GharTiranga,’ and this year, we are celebrating the MAATI of this great country with a profound sense of reverence and gratitude towards our motherland.
2. As an ode and mark of deep reverence to our motherland, we arewholeheartedly celebratingthe ‘Meri Maati – MeraDesh’ campaign along with the rest of the country.
3. Starting from the grassroots level, 2,215 Gram Panchayats in Arunachal have joined hands with 2.5 lakh panchayats in the country, in offering collective tribute to our beloved MITTI this Independence Day.
4. “Mitti ko Naman – Veeron Ka Vandan’ is not merely a slogan but a way of life and abiding belief of the people of our State, who stand shoulder to shoulder with our brave jawans at the long borders in the defence of the motherland.
5. We are felicitating the serving and retired women and men of the armed forces, central armed paramilitary forces and Arunachal Police and their families in large numbers at functions held to dedicate the ‘Sila-Phalakam’ in all Gram Panchayats of Arunachal.
6. We are paying homage to our Mother Earth by planting 75 saplings of long-lasting trees in each village of Arunachal. The Pachayat-level programmes are being concluded with the hoisting of the Tiranga and singing of Rashtragaan in tribute to our Motherland.
7. To create ‘Amrit Vatika’ on Kartavya Path in new Delhi, 7,500‘MITTI YATRIS’ including 131 young sisters and brothers of Arunachal will carry soil from every gram panchayat. The Vatika, along with the dedication of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ Memorial, will be a celebration of our unity and diversity, and stand as a historic reminder of the oneness, values, and strength of our civilization.
8. The recently held G20 meet in Itanagar and the C20 meet in Namsaiaresymbolic of the spirit of universal brotherhood encompassed by the mantra of 'VasudhaivaKutumbakam.' The philosophy of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' not only promotes this feeling of one-ness but is also a testament to the living traditions of Arunachal Pradesh, where for centuries, we have been living in tune with our nature and environment.
9. We stand today at the pinnacle of many mountains we have climbed, not as solitary climbers, but as a united Team Arunachal. Each peak we have conquered, and each challenge we have overcome, has brought us one step closer to our aspiration, our 'Param Vaibhav Bharat.'

# Accolades earned in recent times

**Dear Citizens,**

1. Let me share some of the accolades we as a State have received in recent times. These are a testament to the hard work, dedication, and resilience of Team Arunachal, reflecting Team Arunachal’s commitment to progress and excellence.
2. In NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index 2021 we emerged as one of the top performers in the investment pillar among the North-eastern and Hilly States.
3. We have received the ‘Leaders’ position in the 2021 State’s Start-up Rankings by the Government of India within a year of beginning our start-up journey in 2020.
4. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) Awards we have been recognized for outstanding performance in the 150 Days Challenge, underscoring our commitment to providing affordable housing and dignified living to all our citizens.
5. Changlang received the prestigious Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Public Administration in 2022 for the implementation of the New Age Learning Centre where children of all age group learn and improve all aspect of their personality through various educational activities.
6. Changlang has also been awarded as the "Best City in Innovation and Best Practices in North-East" in the Azadi @75 Swachh Sarvekshan-2022 Awards.
7. Our e-ILP initiative has received several accoladesfor simplifying the process of obtaining Inner Line Permits,promoting tourism,and ensuring the safety and security of all.
8. We have been awarded the “Best Emerging Destination” at the Lonely Planet Travel Awards and the “Best Emerging Green Tourist” by Travel and Leisure Magazine.
9. We havereceived ‘Best Community Engagement in Adolescent Health and Wellness Days’ under the National Health Mission.
10. We have been recognized as the "Most Improved Small State" for two consecutive years, across multiple sectors such as Education,Infrastructure, and Governance.
11. We were awarded the ‘Best Emerging State in Aviation Sector’ atthe Wings India 2022 Conference.
12. We secured the 3rd position among all North Eastern States and an impressive 16th overall in the National Games of 2022. Our remarkable performance continued with the 3rd position in the Northeast Olympic Games 2022 and 17th overall in the 5th Khelo India Youth Games, with 2nd rank among the North Eastern States.
13. We have won the ‘Conservation Award’ in November 2021 for the ‘Airgun Surrender Abhiyan’.
14. I extend my compliments to the Team Arunachal who have contributed to these accolades. We are all proud of the efforts made for these achievements and are sure that we will continue to strive for the welfare of our people.

# Unprecedented economic growth and development

**My dear citizens**,

1. Our 'Vision 2047 of Higher Happiness' is a strategic roadmap for Vikasit Arunachal. Supported by Six ‘Vision Pillars’, in alignment with the Union Government’s Seven ‘Saptarishi’ Priorities, we have crafted a vision comprising:
2. A modern and prosperous State deeply rooted in indigenous traditions,
3. Bridging development gaps in border areas,
4. Self-sufficient, prosperous farming rooted in our tribal eco-friendly and organic traditions,
5. Increase in tourism with eco-friendly and carbon-neutral tourism,
6. Contributing up to 10% of India’s Glasgow commitment to non-fossil electricity,
7. Sustainable harnessing of rich natural resources.
8. Our state has shownsignificantincrease of 136% in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) - from Rs 20,373 Cr in 2015-16 to Rs 48,028 Cr in 2023-24, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.
9. The most gratifying aspect of this unprecedented economic growth is the welfare and well-being of the people. In the past 7 years, the per capita income of our people has surged by nearly 85%, reaching Rs 2,15,897 in 2022-23 from Rs 1,16,985 in 2015-16.
10. Our fiscal policies have proven effective, with our annual budget witnessing an impressive growth of 137%, reaching Rs 29,657 Crores in 2023-24 from Rs 12,533 Cr in 2015-16.
11. Our small traders, our SMEs, our MSMEs – these are the backbone of our economy. Over the past 7 years, our taxpayer base under GST has expanded significantly, from 7,365 in the year 2017-18 to 19,082 at present marking a growth rate of 159%,with consistent growth in tax collections. There has been a tremendous increase in economic activity and a strong drive towards formalization of our State’s economy.
12. From GST collections of just Rs. 277.16 Cr in 2016-17, our GST collections in 2022-23 have risen to Rs. 1886.56 Cr, an increase of close to 600%. During the past 7 years, our total GST collections have touched almost Rs. 7,500 Cr, significantly boosting the State’s own revenues.
13. Our Government has prioritized asset creation. We have allocated 30% of our total budget to capital expenditure, which is the highest in the country. We have spent nearly 12.7% of the budget on roads and bridges which is also the highest in the country.
14. In addition to Government of India funds, we have spent more than Rs. 40,000 Cr through our` Own Resources in the last 7 years for the construction and upgradation of major infrastructure.
15. Despite the adverse economic effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, we continued to invest in infrastructure besides honouring all committed liabilities such as salaries, wages, and loan repayments while maintaining fiscal deficit well within the FRBM limits.
16. These are hallmarks of fiscal prudence and good financial management reflecting our single-minded focus on creating socio-economically productive assets to ensure sustainable development of the State.

# Infrastructure and Connectivity

**My dear citizens,**

1. Arunachal has been growing by leaps and bounds during the past 7 years – our achievements in the fields of economic growth, connectivity - roads, aviation, telecommunications; healthcare, e-governance, sports, education, nutrition, arts and culture have been remarkable. Arunachal today is an ideal example of wholesome development. It is because of the mantra of SabkaSaath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas aur SabkaPrayas given by our Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, that we are witnessing unprecedented, holistic, and inclusive development.

## Road Connectivity

1. Unprecedented progress has been made in road connectivity. We have increased road length by 64% in the last 7 years alone. Today, the State has more than 50,000 KMs of roads. From just 300 KMs of road built per year, we are now building roads at an astounding pace of 2,838 KMs per year.
2. We have made monumental strides in the construction of National Highways, with a 138% increase in length from 1043km in 2015-1016 to 2,482 km in 2022-2023. Critical highways, such as the Arunachal Frontier Highway and the Trans-Arunachal Highway, will drive our State's overall connectivity to new heights.
3. In the next 4-5 years, Arunachal Pradesh will have around 5,000 KM of National Highways. We are thankful to the Government of India for approving an additional **2,574 km** of highways for the State entailing investment of Rs. 44,000 Cr as part of the big infrastructure push on our border areas.
4. What was considered an insurmountable task has been accomplished by the Government by taking road connectivity to the State’s two remotest administrative circles of Vijoynagar on the Indo-Myanmar border and Tali on the Indo-Tibetan border this year.
5. The construction of strategically important Sela and Nechiphu tunnels will also be completed this year.
6. Under the flagship “Chief Minister’s Comprehensive State Road Development Plan,” we are investing in the improvement of 3,650 Km of Capital Complex roads, District Headquarters township roads, roads connecting ADC and SDO headquarters, roads connecting CO and EAC headquarters and construction of State Highways.
7. During the past 7 years, to bring connectivity to the unconnected areas, we have constructed 195 bridges in various parts of the State.

## Air Connectivity

1. Air connectivity is vital for the growth of our State, and we have made significant strides in this direction. The first Greenfield Airport- Donyi Polo at Itanagar has connected Arunachal to the National Aviation Map, opening up new avenues for growth and development.
2. Currently, there are 7 Advanced Landing Grounds (ALGs) in the state. These ALGs are situated in Vijoynagar (Changlang), Mechuka (Shi-Yomi), Walong (Anjaw), Tuting (Upper Siang), Ziro (Lower Subansiri), Aalo (West Siang), and Pasighat (East Siang). The airfield at Tezu has also been made operational. To further enhance intra-state air connectivity, the State has proposed the establishment of two additional ALGs in Anini and Dirang.
3. Today there are 25 operational helipads in different parts of Arunachal.
4. We are endeavouring to start direct flights from Itanagar to Delhi by the end of this year, boosting tourism, investments, and people-to-people contacts.

## Telecom Connectivity

1. We have constructed and upgraded 1300+ 4G towers to provide telecom connectivity in hithertounconnected areas – This includes places such as Kibithoo (India’s first village),Mechuka, and Tato which have been connected for the first time since independence. New mobile towers and 4G services in remote areas are bridging the digital divide, making access to information and services easier for all our citizens. We are working on mission mode to cover the entire State with 4G Telecom services by December 2023.
2. We have targeted 3,884 villages to have 4G services. New towers have been proposed for BSNL 4G services in 757 villages. New mobile towers and 4G services in remote areas are bridging the digital divide, making access to information and services easier for all our citizens.

## Towards Vibrant Border Areas

1. We are implementing the Vibrant Villages Programme to ensure holistic development in border areas and prevent distress migration. Under this programme, we shall build state-of-the-art infrastructure in more than 1,400 border villages of our State.
2. The Border Village Illumination initiative is setting an example of our commitment to provide urban facilities in border areas. We have installed 6,000 solar streetlights in 728 border villages and have completed17 Mini-Hydel projects of 1,255 KW capacity in Phase-I with an investment of Rs. 50.45 Cr. We have now taken up 6 new projects in Phase-II at an estimated cost of Rs. 50 Cr.
3. By connecting 252 border habitations through the construction of 2,506 km of roads, we have ensured that our citizens in remote areas have better connectivity and access to essential services.

## Electrification

1. Our mission to bring light into every household has resulted in the 100% electrification of 5,311 villages. This monumental achievement has been made possible through the concerted efforts of our State, through schemes such as SAUBHAGYA and Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana, leading to the electrification of 3.02 lakh households.
2. Our dedication to innovation and efficiency is evident in the Rs. 50 crore revenue generated through online billing system operational in 25 towns.
3. Power distribution has seen a complete transformation, due to the revamped Distribution Sector scheme. We have laid down 2,141 km of 132 KV lines and 2,000 km of 33 KV lines, along with 535 circuit km of 33 KV lines and 48 circuit km of 132 KV lines.
4. Recognising the role of digital connectivity in the development of our state, we are laying optical fibre across transmission lines.
5. We haveinstalled 20,000 solar streetlights in District Headquarters, Circle Headquarters, and Villages. In major cities like Itanagar, Tawang, Seppa, Namsai, and Changlang, we haveinstalled 2,466 Smart Street Lights.In addition, 2,00,000 Solar study lamps have been distributed to students.

## Railways

1. The inauguration of the Naharlagun Railway Station in 2018 has connected Arunachal to the national railway map. Now, we have railway connectivity to Guwahati, New Delhi and Tinsukia. The construction of the 26.15 KMs Murkongselek to Pasighat Railway line with proposed railway stations at Sille, Labo and Pasighat has also started and is expected to be completed by March 2025.

# Driving Progress: Saturation of Flagship Schemes

**My dear citizens,**

1. Our growth is a testament to the synergies of Central and StateGovernment initiatives. We have rolled out several flagship schemes spanning housing, drinking water, healthcare, financial inclusion, and economic empowerment.
2. Our unwavering commitment is to ensure saturation for all eligible beneficiaries under flagship schemes in mission mode. Through the ‘Sarkar AapkeDwar’ initiative, we have successfully reached out to 12 lakh citizens. The revamped ‘Seva AapkeDwar’, initiated in October 2022, has already catered to over 1.8 lakh beneficiaries. Our outreach has effectively reached out toa large population of the State and emphasizes bottom-up micro planning, ensuring beneficiaries directly receive entitlements and servicesat their doorstep.
3. On the health front, an impressive54% or 1,56,574 families, have been covered with health insurance under Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana and Chief Minister Arogya Arunachal Yojana.Nearly 25,000 patients have received free of cost treatment of Rs 39 Cr,thus reducing out of pocket expenditure.Weare providing free diagnostic services for 44 tests at 55 health facilities, benefitting over 8,00,000 patients with 25,00,000 tests.
4. Our commitment to the Jal Jeevan Mission and Arun Jal Sankalp is unparalleled. We have provided functional household tap connections to 1,98,791 households, achieving 87% of our target of 2,30,275 households, much ahead of the scheme timeline.
5. Mission Amrit Sarovar has witnessed commendable progress, with the development of 1,739 water bodies, nearing our goal with 93% completion against a target of 1,875.
6. Under PM Gram Sadak Yojana, we have made great strides in rural connectivity. A total of 13,255 KM of roads have been constructed, achieving 92% of our target.
7. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Grameen), we have completed 18,641 houses or 51% against a target of 36,378.
8. Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), we have achieved 66% of our target constructing 6,890 houses out of 7,393 houses.
9. In our endeavours to support street vendors, the SVANidhi scheme has been instrumental. We have covered 4,796 beneficiaries out of the 6,609 identified.
10. We have provided Soil Health Cards to 1,08,262 farmers covering 94% of total farmers. We have issued Kisan Credit Cards to 96,492 farmers.
11. Under PM KISAN SAMMAN Nidhi, we have transferred Rs 143 Cr directly to the accounts of 99,656 farmers.

# Improvement in Social Sectors in the last 7 years

## Health

1. Over the past 7 years, our key health indicators have undergone a transformation, a testament to our relentless commitment to elevating healthcare standards and providing quality health services to all.
2. We started Arunachal’s first medical college in 2018. The first batch of MBBS students of TRIHMS have successfully passed out with 100% results. This is a testament of our dedication to building a skilled healthcare workforce for providing world-class healthcare facilities to our citizens.
3. Arunachal now stands among the best health human-resourced States, ensuring adequate healthcare professionals for our people.Our efforts in in this direction have been exemplary. There has been a significant reductionin human resource gap from 34% to 6% in the last 7 years.
4. Institutional deliveries are a hallmark of safer childbirth and healthy mothers. We have significantlyincreased institutional deliveries to 79.2%, from just 52.2% in 2015-16.
5. Our state has witnessed a commendable decline in the Infant Mortality Rate - from 22.9 per 1,000 live births in 2015-16 to 12.9 in 2020-21, which is the highest reduction amongst all States in the country.
6. Similarly, the Neonatal Mortality Rate has improved from 11.8 to 7.7, and the Under-5 Mortality Rate from 32.9 to 18.8, saving precious lives in the earliest stages.
7. Antenatal care plays a crucial role in ensuring healthy pregnancies. We have increased antenatal check-ups of women in the first trimester of pregnancy from 36.9% in 2015-16 to 53.1% at present.
8. Complete immunization coverage stands at 76.4%, emphasizing our dedication to protecting our future generations against preventable diseases.
9. Our “Medicine from the Sky” initiative has provided increased accessibility to medicines and vaccines in far and remote areas with the use of the drones. So far, 4,000 medical products have been carried over 10,000 km.
10. To further bolster our healthcare infrastructure, we have invested Rs 450 Cr for the upgradation of 18 District Hospitals. 3 projects i.e., upgradation of CHC Seijosa to a 20 bedded hospital, upgradation of 20 bedded CHC, PakkeKessang and construction of District Hospital at Longding have been completed. 15 projects will be completed by March 2024.
11. We have bolstered critical care infrastructure with the establishment of Intensive Care Units and Paediatric Care Units in 11 Hospitals. 60 Golden Jubilee Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres have been establishedas per IPHS norms.
12. We are upgradingthe BakinPertin General Hospital, Pasighat into a state-of-the-art 300-bed hospital.
13. We have installed 128 Slice CT Scan Units and Colour Doppler Ultrasound in multiple district hospitals to provide advanced diagnostic facilities.
14. We have established state-of-the-art MRI machines at TRIHMS to cater to needs of patients.
15. On 13th August 2023, we have dedicated a state-of-the-art Cath-lab at TRIHMS to the people.
16. To cater to patients' dialysis needs, we have set up Dialysis units in 10 hospitals, providing life-saving treatment to 422 patients so far.
17. With the Chief Minister Health Emergency Life Protection Services initiative, we have upgraded the Emergency Units of 5 General/District Hospitals into Emergency Care Centres, along with a state-of-the-art Emergency and Trauma Centre at TRIHMS, guaranteeing immediate medical attention during emergencies.
18. Our commitment to providing essential medical facilities and preparedness to fight pandemics is reflected in providing medical oxygen pipeline connectivity to 19 District Hospitals. 1,565 beds are connected to the oxygen pipeline with 1,269 oxygen concentrators and 4,526 oxygen cylinders. We now have 49 Pressure Swing Adsorption Oxygen generation plants, covering all districts.
19. Our healthcare sector has also witnessed significant digitization, with all District hospitals, TRIHMS, and 40 Community Health Centres onboarded on the digital Hospital Management Information System, improving patient care and medical record management.
20. E-telemedicine – network has been established in the entire State with TRIHMS- Naharlagun and BPGH – Pasighat as Hubs for specialist Consultation. 1,779 Teleconsultations have been done and e-prescriptions issued.
21. Sound mental health is a benchmarkfor a happy society. To bring specialized mental healthcare within reach of people, we have started the ‘TELE-MANAS’ program in association with NIMHANS, Bengaluru for teleconsultations.
22. We have introduced mental health programs in 16 districts and upgraded the 20-bed Mental Hospital at Midpu.
23. It gives me great pleasure to announce the establishment of a ‘Renal Care Centre of Excellence’ in TRIHMS in collaboration with the Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi. Our doctors will collaborate with specialists from a globally renowned Renal Care and Kidney Transplant Centre to treat our citizens. Soon, we will have an in-house kidney transplantation centre in the State.

## Education

1. Education is the cornerstone of our society and the key to unlocking our State's full potential.
2. The school dropout rate has reduced from 9% to 2.3% in the past 7 years, falling much below the national average of 12.6%.
3. Our government had initiated 'Mission Shiksha' and observed 2021-22 as the 'Year of Education' in view of the critical importance of education in shaping individuals as well as our society.
4. We are upgrading 50 Government schools to Golden Jubilee schools with a cumulative investment of Rs. 500 Cr. These schools will serve as beacons of excellence providing world-class infrastructure and teaching methodology for our students. We are now focussing on improving learning outcomes of our students and providing them 21st century skills to make them future ready.
5. We have established of 12 Eklavya Model Residential Schools, with an allocation of Rs 217 Cr to improve educational outcomes.
6. Recognizing the importance of educating our girl students to secure their future, we haveconstructed 50 dedicated girls' Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya as well as 38 KGBVs attached to higher secondary schools.
7. To cater to the diverse needs of our students, we have added vocational education courses in Tourism, Hospitality, and IT in 99 Government Higher secondary schools and 70 Government Secondary schools.

## Women and Child Development

1. Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji has said “Our Matru Shakti is our pride. Women empowerment is very crucial to our development”. Women are at the centre of our developmental journey. We are true to ourselves and the nation when a little girl born in the State knows that she has the same chance to succeed as anybody else. Our journey is not complete until our mothers, our sisters and our daughters can achieve their dreams and aspirations.
2. There has been a significant reduction of the gender gap in education. Over the last 7 years, we have successfully brought down the gender gap from 20.3% to 14.12%, significantly increasing the number of girls in schools.
3. We have initiated self-defence training programs for girl students in Classes XI and XII in Government schools. Sanitary napkins are being provided to all girl children studying in Government Schools.
4. Over 85,000 women have been mobilised into more than 9,300 SHGs. The Government has invested in their growth and success by training over 1,100 SHGs, equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to thrive. Over 2900 SHGs have been linked to credit facilities and Rs 33 Cr bank credit has been provided, enabling them to realize their dreams and aspirations.
5. Our women are successfully running 432 vehicles under the Arunachal Grameen Express Yojana. 250 Mother’s Kitchen have been opened across the state with one Mother’s Collective at Itanagar where all SHGs of Arunachal can display and sell their products.Under the PMFormalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprise Scheme, 1081 SHG members and 164 SHG group enterprises have been formed.
6. Building on last year's momentum of empowering 500 SHGs, we have 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, enabling them to access bank loans thus igniting their entrepreneurial spirit and boosting their incomes.
7. Recognizing their immense potential and impact, we have earmarked 50% of schemes under the Atmanirbhar Arunachal initiative for SHGs.
8. In a major initiative for grassroot led digital commerce in Arunachal, I am announcing a collaboration with the Online Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India through which our SHG members and farmers can sell their products to all parts of the country, right from their doorsteps.
9. Under the Dulari Kanya Yojana, Rs 25,000 Fixed Deposit was given to 8,371 girl children born in Arunachal. Additional Rs 10,000 is being provided to all girl children born during and after the Golden Jubilee Year.
10. Through 6,225 Anganwadi Centres, we areproviding health care and wellness to 1,80,000 pregnant women, lactating mothers, adolescent girls and children.
11. Technologies are being leveraged for dynamic identification of stunting, wasting, under-weight prevalence among children and last mile tracking of nutrition service delivery.Under the Poshan Abhiyan, we have provided 6,812 smartphones. 2839 Anganwadi Workers were trained on Poshan Tracker.
12. Under Phal se Poshan Yojana, all Anganwadisare distributing 10-12 kg. of fresh locally available nutritional food items, seasonal fruits, and vegetables every month to pregnant women, lactating mothers and children.
13. Acknowledging the efforts of our Anganwadi workers, we have enhanced their monthly honorarium by Rs 1,500.

## Social Welfare

1. Under the umbrella CM Social Security Program Scheme, almost Rs 60 Cr pension is paid toover 59,000widows, disabled and elderly every year.
2. For the continued welfare of our citizens through financial inclusion schemes, we are payingpremiums for coverage of Gaon Burahs and Burhis, Anganwadi Workers, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives, Casual Labour, Contingency Workers, and ALCs.
3. Under the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana our government is paying the premium for more than 1.07 lakhcitizens.

# Governance Reforms and Achievements

**My dear citizens,**

1. Together, we have embraced the power of technology to create a more efficient, transparent, and citizen-centric governance model.
2. We havemade remarkable achievements in the domain of governance, especially e-Governance. We dedicated the year 2022 as the Year of e-governance with the launch of 22 transformational people-centric digital initiatives. We are part of an elite group of States which have achieved 100% e-office implementation. OurCivil Secretariat, all District Headquarters, and Directoratesare now connected and are paperless.
3. Our e-Vidhan, e-Cabinet and e-File platforms are success stories which are being talked about nationally. The e-ABKARI, e-GRAS, e-ILP, online marriage certificates, ST Certificates, and Income Certificates have made government services more accessible to our citizens in 19 districts.
4. The setup of a Satellite-based Monitoring System and mandatory Geo-tagging of key projects have added an extra layer of accountabilityto our development initiatives.
5. The benefits of e-Governance have also been extended to the management of funds under various schemes. We have successfully released funds under 273 central and 10 state schemes through the PFMS, ensuring transparency and accountability in the allocation and utilization of resources.
6. As part of our commitment to Ease of Doing Business, 72 services have been onboarded on the EoDB portal. We are streamlining processes for businesses and investors, creating a conducive environment for investments and economic growth. We have repealed 28 business related obsolete laws to attract investment into the state.
7. To enhance Ease of Living and reduce the compliance burden for our citizens, we have repealed 33 obsolete laws and ordinances.
8. Our commitment to transparent and accountable governance is evident in the 162 Cabinet meetings held, where a staggering 1,088 decisions were taken, each one meeting the needs and aspirations of our people.
9. In the past 7 years, in an effort to bring the administration closer to the doorsteps of people, we have functionalized the East and West Divisional Commissionerate Offices and created a new Central Divisional Commissionerate Office. We have created 4 new Districts, 8 new ADC Headquarters, 6 new EAC Headquarters, 7 SDO Headquarters, 14 new Circles and 18 new CD Blocks. We have provided them the requisite infrastructure, facilities, and funds for smooth and effective functioning. We have also ensured independence of functioning of ADCs for smoother and decentralized decision making.
10. I announce establishment of the **Institute for Transforming Arunachal**(ITA) as a state-of-the-art thinktank for the State’s development. I invite academics, researchers, sector experts, teachers, farmers, doctors, health workers, leaders, engineers, labourers, private citizens, and all well-wishers of Arunachal to work hand-in-hand with the Government to provide new Disha to the State’s development journey and help us achieve all that we aspire towards.

# 2023-2024: Year of Atmanirbharta, Youth Aspirations and Livelihood Opportunities

**My dear citizens,**

1. With the vision of ‘Higher Happiness’, we have dedicated the year 2023-24 to ‘Atmanirbharta, Youth Aspirations, and Livelihood Opportunities.’

## Agriculture& Allied

1. Agriculture and allied sectors are the backbone of our economy. We have consistently delivered on our commitments to support our farmers and increase their incomes.
2. Strategic initiatives of ‘Atmanirbhar Krishi Yojana’, ‘AtmanirbharBagwani Yojana', AtmaNirbharMatsyaPalan Yojana', ‘AtmaNirbharPashuPalan Yojana’, and 'AtmaNirbhar Plantation Yojana', have cumulatively benefited 17,897 individuals and 336 Self-Help Groups. With an aim to uplift 19,912 individuals and 3,448 SHGs, we are spending Rs 375 Cr this year.
3. Idu Mishmi Textiles have earned the Geographical Indication tag, making them unique products.The award of Geographical Indication tags for Khaw Tai (Khamti rice) and Yak Churpiis in advanced stages. We are also pursuing GI tags for 16 more products.

## Youth Aspirations

1. In the past 7 years, our Government has created almost 10,500 new posts in various Departments and offices.
2. Nurturing of entrepreneurial spirit of the youths has been one of our most important development agendas. Steadfast in its resolve, Arunachal Pradesh Investment and Innovation Park has nurtured 66 start-ups.
3. The DeenDayal Upadhyaya Swavalamban Yojana stands as a beacon of hope and opportunity for our vibrant youth.We have catalysed investments of Rs. 125 Crto fulfil the entrepreneurial dreams of 828 persons across eco-tourism, homestays, restaurants, bakeries, traditional textiles & weaving, motor garages, carpentry, and beauty parlours. This year we have increased the allocation from Rs 50 Cr to Rs 200 Cr, targeting 1,000 new entrepreneurs, especially women.
4. Additionally, Chief Minister Paryatan Vikas Yojana has benefitted 741 beneficiaries. We aim to support around 700 more in the upcoming year with an allocation of Rs. 220 Cr.
5. Our achievements in the domain of sports are outstanding. A staggering collection of 375 gold, 259 silver, and 266 bronze medals in esteemed national and international competitions stands as a testament to our prowess.
6. The Golden Jubilee Outdoor Stadium, Yupia, with a capacity of 15,000, 6 new national-level stadiums at Pasighat,Ziro, Daporijo, Tezu, Aalo and Chimpu including the 20,700 sq.m. DK Badminton Academy, will foster our next generation of athletes.
7. The National Centre for Sports Science Research at Itanagar is one of the six Centres of Excellence. The SangayLhaden Sports Academy has been declared the ‘Khelo India State Centre of Excellence’ for Archery, Hockey, Wushu, Boxing and Weightlifting.
8. We have established 54 Khelo India Centres for grassroots training, reaching out to talented and aspiring sportspersons across the State.
9. We have entered into an MOU with the All-India Football Federation for coaching 18,000 school children.
10. Our Arunachal is on its way to becoming a hub for international and national level sports tournaments. During the last 7 years, the South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championship, the 25th Senior Women’s National Football Championship, the fifth Junior Boys National Boxing Championship, the Hero Sub Junior (Boys) National Football Championship, the Dr. T. Ao North East Football Tournament, the first North East Zonal Sub-Junior Boxing Championship and several other events were conducted in various parts of the State.
11. Our visionary Sports Policy of 2017, has catalysed the development of state-of-the-art sports infrastructure and provides employment opportunities, cash incentives and other facilities to our athletes.
12. To encourage and support our sportspersons, we have provided cash incentives amounting to Rs 4 Crores. We have also reserved 5% of government and 10% of police jobs for meritorious sportspersons, recognizing their exceptional talents and dedication.
13. We have introduced a Sports e-directory to connect sportspersons with coaching infrastructure and other resources, fostering a supportive ecosystem for their growth.
14. We have dedicated funds for participation in the National Games and other prestigious events, ensuring that our athletes have the necessary support and resources to shine on the national and international stage.

## Tourism

1. In the last few years, the State witnessed a remarkable 64% increase in total tourist footfall. This surge in visitors speaks volumes about the allure of our breathtaking landscapes, the richness of our cultural heritage, and the warmth of our hospitality. As tourism flourishes, so does our state's own revenue.
2. Recognizing the tourism potential of the State, we have strategically developed and operationalised 14 tourist circuits. This includes the recent opening of two new tourist circuits in Tirap and Longding.
3. We are thrilled to have set up the 3rd Film and Television Institute of India in Arunachal Pradesh. Our scenic landscapes have been showcased in renowned movies like Bhediya, which won the prestigious Dada Saheb Phalke Awards for Best Actor (Critics) and Best VFX in a Feature Film.

## Environment, Forestsand Climate Change

1. Our Arunachal became the first state in India to affirm our commitment to climate-resistant development through the Pakke Declaration 2047, with 75 strategies identified under PanchDharas, and adoption of Climate Targeted Budgeting.
2. I urge everyone to adopt the 75 environmentally friendly and healthy lifestyle practices in their daily routines.
3. The 'Mission LiFE: Lifestyle for Environment Campaign' - an initiative helmed by the Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, culminated in the 'Arunachal Mission LiFE Month'. In the months of June and July 2023 we conducted over 3,000 events for environmental awareness.
4. Our innovative Airgun Surrender Abhiyan, protecting both wildlife and environment, under which 2,400+ airguns have been surrendered, has been appreciated nationally, including by the Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji.
5. We are grateful to the Government of India for the recent amendment of the Forest (Conservation) Act. This progressive Act will enable synergistic balance between development and environmental protection and conservation, especially in Arunachal. The Amendment will also enhance scope of infrastructure for frontline forest staff, eco-tourism, zoos and safaris, as well as cater to the livelihood aspirations of local communities.
6. Our efforts to enhance the biodiversity of the state have recently culminated in a strategic expansion, with the addition of two Royal Bengal Tigers and three gharials to the Itanagar Biological Park, further enriching the ecological value of the region.

## Hydro Power

1. Hydropower has been a cornerstone of our State’s development, and we take immense pride in the fact that our hydroelectric potential of 57,000 MW is around 40% of India's potential.
2. Our installed hydropower capacity has witnessed a staggering 213% increase, from 405 MW in 2015-16 to an impressive 1,270 MW in 2022-23. We are now the second power surplus State in the North-East. Post the commissioning of the Panyor Lower, Pare and Kameng Hydro Electric Projects, we have received Rs. 1183 Cr worth of free power in just the last 7 years.
3. The dedication of the 600 MW Kameng Hydro Power Project to the nation by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has brought immense benefits to our State. With an estimated investment of Rs 31,876 Cr, this project now provides Rs 560 Cr worth of free power per year for Arunachal, driving our State's progress even further.
4. The construction of theLower Subansiri Hydroelectrical Project is almost 90% complete and 2 units are scheduled to be commissioned by December 2024.It is a dedicated 2,000 MW Project, making it the Largest Hydropower Dam in the country at present.
5. The approval of the 2,880 MW Dibang Multipurpose Project by the Government of India marks a major milestone in our quest for sustainable energy solutions.
6. Just 3 days back, on 12th August, we have signed agreements with 3 central PSUs for kick-starting 12 stalled Mega Hydro Projects of 11,523 MW capacity. These projects entail a cumulative investment of close to Rs. 1.4 lakh crore and will generate an annual revenue of Rs. 10,000 Cr.Upon commissioning, these projects will not only aid in producing reliable and renewable source of power for the State and nation, but also provide Rs. 3,500 Cr of free power to the State and Rs. 250 Cr of Local Area Development Fund every year.

# Our Culture, Our Pride

**Dear citizens,**

1. Drawing inspiration from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's vision of unity, shedding differences, and fostering a shared spirit,we celebrate the unity of our diverse tribes and their unwavering commitment to the growth and development of Arunachal. Remembering our traditional roots and taking pride in our rich indigenous culture is key to ensuring the happiness of the present and future generations. This celebration forms a key strategic pillar of our Vision of ‘Higher Happiness’.
2. We have established the Department of Indigenous Affairs recognizing the importance of preserving, promoting, and safeguarding our indigenous cultures and traditions.
3. The preservation of tribal languages is essential to safeguard our heritage. We embarked on a journey to document the cultural heritage of Adi, Nyishi, Wancho, Nocte and Tangsa tribes in the first phase. This has now been extended to cover 14 tribes, namely Galo, Apatani, Tagin, Monpa, Sherdukpen, Sartang, Bugun, Aka, Mishmi (Idu, Taraon and Kaman), Miji, Khampti, Memba and Khamba and will be completed this year.
4. We are establishing Indigenous Gurukuls to harmonize traditional wisdom, local dialects, languages, and culture with contemporary education. Presently, one Galo and two Nyishi tribal Gurukuls grace the state, with one each for the Adi and Tangsa tribes will be completed this year.
5. For the preservation of our indigenous belief and prayer systems, we are building Indigenous Prayer Centres across the State.
6. Acknowledging the pivotal role of indigenous priests in the tribal community we have recognized over 3,000+ priests andare providing them an honorarium of Rs. 1,000 per month.
7. We have identified 223 Unsung Heroes of our freedom struggle as part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. An exhibition showcasing the lives, struggles and achievements of our unsung heroes was inaugurated by the Hon’ble President of India Smt. Draupadi Murmuon the 37th Statehood Day. We are constructing State Memorials at 13 locationsat a cost of Rs. 7.8 Cr for our unsung heroes to commemorate their participation in India’s struggle against colonial rule.
8. As part of the commemoration of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, we have celebrated ‘Arunachal Rang Mahotsava’ through theatre performances in 4 cities of the country, Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Guwahati showcasing the unsung heroes of Arunachal.
9. To promote and showcase our indigenous culture to the rest of the country, we have signed an MoU with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations under the Ministry of External Affairs. We are planning a National Traditional Folk Music and Dance Festival this year under the ‘Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat’ theme.
10. Under the VOCAL FOR LOCAL initiative, we have set up a Rs 3 Cr revolving fund for promotion of textile,handicrafts, and sericulture sectors.
11. We are indeed one of the biggest repositories of diverse and culturally rich tribes. The Research Institute of World’s Ancient Traditions Cultures and Heritage (RIWATCH) in Roinghas emerged as a leading Community Based Research Organization demonstrating how empowerment of vibrant cultures of and ethnic value systems is critical for achieving sustainable prosperity.
12. We hosted the 1st-ever International Tribal Film Festival in 2022, showcasing the diverse cultural tapestry of our State.
13. Culture, in essence, is a dynamic force shaping our present and guiding our future.

# Concluding Remarks

**Dear Citizens,**

1. On this momentous occasion of India's Independence Day, let us once again reflect on the sacrifices of our freedom fighters and the relentless struggle they undertook to liberate us from the fetters of colonial rule. It is by celebrating the legacy of our past that we embrace the possibilities of our future.
2. The Government salutes the ‘Bravehearts’ of our Army, Air Force, Navy, Paramilitary forces, and Police, and joins the people of the State in expressing ‘Mitti ko Naman – Veeron Ka Vandan’. As you stand tall and strong in defending and maintaining the territorial integrity of the Country, know that the entire nation stands steadfastly with you.
3. Every endeavour, every initiative, and every stride of the Government over these seven years has been to realize the vision of a vibrant Arunachal under the tenets of ‘Seva, Sushashan, and Sammridhhi’. The ethos of the Government and Team Arunachal is crystallized in our citizen-centric and developmental policies.
4. In our hands, we hold the pen that writes the next chapter of Arunachal's glorious story towards ‘Amrit Kaal’. Let us write it with wisdom, with compassion, and with courage. Let us write a story that future generations will read with pride, a story of an Arunachal that rose to its destiny, not by chance but by choice.
5. Our journey will not be easy. We will fall at times, but together we will rise each time stronger, wiser and more determined. I pledge to walk this path with you, to serve you with integrity and humility, to hold your hand in all adversity, and to strive with all my might in our journey together. This is our journey, not mine, not yours alone – our journey, for our Arunachal, for our India, for our future in this ‘Amrit Kaal’.

Jai Hind! Jai Arunachal Pradesh!

Happy Independence Day!