

**REPUBLIC DAY MESSAGE OF HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF NAGALAND**

**My Dear Brothers and Sisters of Nagaland,**

**Namaskar.**

It is with boundless pride and joy that we celebrate our 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of our Motherland BHARAT. On this momentous occasion, we also gratefully recall the struggle and sacrifices made by hundreds of patriots, men & women who laid their lives for the freedom we enjoy today.

On this historic day, in the year 1950, we the People of India adopted our Constitution which was framed by Bharata Ratna Dr B R Ambedkar, that made India into a Sovereign and Democratic Republic Nation, whereby, Justice, Equality, and Liberty was ensured to one and all.

Today is the Birthday of Rani Ma Gaidinliu, a Naga, and great freedom fighter of North East India. I salute her.

It is an occasion for celebration and rejoicing, yet it is also a day of introspection about our successes and our failures in realizing the goals set in the Constitution and the dreams of the stalwarts of India's freedom struggle.

With the introduction of many welfare schemes like Jan Dhan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Kisan Credit Cards, Soil Insurance, Mudra Yojana, Skill India, Smart City Mission, Atal Pension Yojana, Digital India Program, Make in India, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, and Sawach Bharat Abhiyan etc. by the Union Government led by our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and many welfare projects by the State Government has given a new positive direction for a better life.

I would like to draw the attention towards Skill education, which is the future of developing State and our Country. We must impart skill training to educated youth to be entrepreneurs and thereby wealth creators.

We are grateful to our Kisans, service providers and hardworking labourers for their hard work to make the State towards self-sufficiency in food production and strengthening the connectivity.

Our State has potential for all round development. We are blessed with abundant natural resources like coal, minerals, mineral oil, hydro energy, solar energy, rain water, flora and fauna, precious stones, etc.

We have lakhs of Human Resources. It is high time our Universities introduce new curriculum to create wealth out of Natural Resources by utilising judiciously for the development of the State. Our forest is endowed with herbs and medicinal plants which need to be grown as commercial crop to double the income of our agriculturists.

Cooperative Movement in the Agri Sector is the need of the hour to economically strengthen our organic producing farmers.

Under Public Private Partnership (PPP) a number of initiatives have been taken up in health and education sector by conduct of nine free medical camps by renowned Doctors from outside the State, conduct of student/teacher exchange programmes, providing E-learning facilities to as many as 28 Government Schools in Nagaland motivated by Indian National Fellowship Centre (INFC), an NGO from Mumbai, Rotary Club of Bombay and Workhart Foundation, Mumbai. Many students have been given free admission in Engineering/Nursing and other courses in various Institutes in Karnataka and Maharashtra. Again under PPP, Tata Trust, Mumbai has signed MoU with State Government to train our Doctors in District Hospitals for early detection and treatment of Cancer in the State.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan activities have been conducted satisfactorily in the State with active participation of NGOs, Civil Society, Student Community and other organisations. Our nine Brand Ambassadors of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan are also doing commendable work in the State.

Women have an important role to play in development of the State and Country. Hundreds of girl children in Nagaland are being sponsored by Raj Bhavan in their studies under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme with the help of well wishers.

Peace is pre-requisite for development. Central Government has been successful in bringing all the Naga armed groups to negotiating table. We hope that the Framework Agreement will result in an early respectable and acceptable solution to protracted Naga political issue. We are grateful to our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Modiji who has shown political will to address the Naga issue.

I appreciate the State Government for their initiatives for all round development of the State in tune with "**Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas**".

Let us renew our pledge, on this historic day, to rededicate ourselves to the ideals of nationalism and of patriotism and to work, with commitment, dedication, trust and confidence to make Nagaland a Golden Nagaland by making economically strong, vibrant and peaceful.

Our goal should be economically independent, peaceful and prosperous State in tune with other 28 States of the Country. We have to come out from 'Bimaru State'. Let us be the equal partner in making Bharat a prosperous, strong peaceful country.

I make a special appeal to all educated youth to come back to Nagaland and strengthen village economy and contribute to make Nagaland a vibrant economically self-sufficient, prosperous and Golden Nagaland.

My dear citizens, let me once again wish you a very purposeful and happy Republic Day.

Thank you

Jai Hind. Bharat Mata Ki Jai