

**SPEECH OF HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF NAGALAND
SHRI. P.B. ACHARYA AT THE INAUGURAL FUNCTION OF
HORNBILL FESTIVAL ON 1ST DECEMBER 2018 AT KISAMA.**

- **Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singhji,**
- **Mr. Kenneth. I. Juster, Hon'ble US Ambassador to India**
- **Hon'ble Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde,**
- **Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland Shri Neiphiu Rio & his gracious wife, his Cabinet Colleagues, Hon'ble Speaker, Advisors and MLAs.**

- **Dr S C Jamir,**
- **Rev.Dr. Z. Keyho, General Secretary, NBCC,**

- **Shri Shikuto Zalipu, Village Chief,**
- **Senior Officers from Civil, Police, Army and Central Para Military Forces,**
- **Guests and Delegates from abroad,**

- **Guests from other States,**
- **Dignitaries,**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Namaskar.

I convey my greetings to everyone on the occasion of the 55th Statehood Day of our state. It is an honour for us to have our Union Home Minister here as Chief Guest, US Ambassador to India as Guest of Honour, Hon'ble Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde as Special Guest for the Hornbill Festival today. I extend you a warm and hearty welcome to our beautiful State of Nagaland.

1st December being Statehood Day, for we Nagas, it is a double joyous occasion to celebrate the festival of festivals, Hornbill Festival and Statehood Day also.

We Nagas deserve gratitude and appreciation for making the Hornbill as one of the most talked about cultural festivals in the country.

As we all know that Government of India has recognized Hornbill festival as one of the major performing artist's events in India. This festival has acquired fame because of the enthusiastic participation of all tribes of Nagaland.

Congratulations and thanks to all participating artists.

Festivals are occasions to give thanks to Almighty, to express joy and happiness of the good harvest, and also a symbol of Unity. Nagaland is truly the land of festivals. We are proud that our each tribe has its own identity, distinct tradition, customs and colorful festival, almost every month. These social occasions bring together people and we all feel a “sense of belonging” and it increases the community spirit. Hornbill festival gives a boost to tourism in the State and this festival has become a regular feature in the itinerary of our tour operators and tourists.

This year the State Government has introduced Mini-Hornbill Festivals in all the Districts coinciding with the respective tribal festivals. This will give boost to each tribes tradition and also strengthen tourism in the State.

Over the years with the efforts of the State government and the people, the number of people coming to the State to witness the festival has increased manifold. The successive Hornbill Festivals have also played a significant part in this endeavour by creating awareness about the people and the State.

Music and Dance are an integral part of life of each tribe and it has the potential to attract more tourists and rapid economic growth of the State. Our youth excel when it comes to music and community dance. The traditional folk songs, the poetic love songs, the gospels and the exquisite classical tunes strengthen our ancestral life philosophy and our roots. Our identity is not only Dance & Music but should be economically strong society.

Nagaland has achieved remarkable progress over the last five and half decades particularly in the field of education, health care, hospitality, etc. In a small State with 20 lakhs population, we have five Universities in the State and more than 3 lakh young graduates in almost all faculties. Our empowered and highly educated youth can transform the State into a prosperous one. Our Universities have to address our requirements and empower ourselves with knowledge and skill to create wealth out of natural resources to make our Nagaland a Golden Nagaland.

Permanent peace is essential for an investment friendly environment. Peace has to be sustained. I hope that with the blessings of Almighty and ongoing peace talks in New Delhi, we will be able to enter an era of permanent peace. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Modiji has the political will and guts to address our problems and bring a respectable solution. Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Shri Rajnathji, we are optimistic about the prospects of the on-going dialogue to bring about a resolution of the long pending political issue.

Nagaland can be economically strong, self sufficient in food and a prosperous State by creating wealth out of our natural resources which are abundant in our State. Our educated youth have to be an asset. They, only by changing their mindset, taking care of our villages, addressing our needs, can make Nagaland a prosperous State.

I congratulate our farmers (Annadadas) and other service providers for their hard work. They are our strength. Let us take care of them by providing all facilities including food security.

Our Hon'ble Home Minister, Shri Rajnath ji, will see the glimpses of our culture and lifestyle in this programme and I am sure he will cherish it. We hope that he will carry back these pleasant memories.

I on my own behalf and on behalf of the people of the State, express our gratitude to our Hon'ble Union Home Minister for accepting our invitation to inaugurate this year's Hornbill Festival.

As we celebrate this year's Hornbill festival, I appeal all of you to have oneness, love, and forgiveness among yourselves whether it is between individual or community.

I am sure all the guests will enjoy their stay in Nagaland and carry with them the sweet memories of this place, culture, hospitality, etc.

It's our local people's responsibility to treat our guests with all respect and care.

Wishing all artists and artisans who are participants in our Hornbill Festival a grand success in their life. You are our precious asset. We are proud of you.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

THANK YOU,

KUKNALIM,

BHARAT MATA KI JAI.