## ON THE OCCASION OF STATEHOOD DAY 2024 (To be broadcasted through DDK, Akashvani Kohima)

## My dear sisters and brothers of Nagaland,

On this historic occasion of our Statehood Day, I extend my warmest greetings to each one of you. Today, as we commemorate the day when our beloved state began its journey, let us reflect on the path, celebrate our achievements, and look forward to a brighter future.

The beginning was marked by challenges and struggles that tested our unity and resolve. Our forebearers faced numerous challenges and great adversities to earn the recognition we proudly cherish today. Their unwavering spirit and determination are testaments to the strength of our people, who have worked tirelessly to carve out a unique identity for Nagaland in the vast tapestry of India.

Today, as we enjoy the hard-earned peace, we must recognize that it is a precious gift. It is imperative that we preserve it with utmost care and responsibility. Our shared goal should be to continue building a society based on mutual respect, understanding and unity.

Throughout these six decades, Nagaland has progressed significantly. Our cultural heritage continues to thrive, blending tradition with modernity in a way that enriches the fabric of our state. The resilience and adaptability of our citizens have led to remarkable achievements in education, arts, sports, and community development.

Our vibrant festivals and rich cultural expressions stand as testament of our unity and diversity.

However, as we celebrate, we must also acknowledge the areas where we face challenges. Economic development and infrastructure growth are areas requiring our focused attention. Efforts must be intensified to boost sustainable growth and provide opportunities for all. We must work collectively to improve healthcare, connectivity infrastructure, preserve our environment and ensure that every Naga enjoys a decent quality of life.

Going forward, let us draw inspiration from our struggle and accomplishments. Together, let us build a Nagaland that is not only rich in culture and tradition but also strong in industry, education and innovation. Our journey is far from over; unitedly we can pave the way for a prosperous future where every Naga feels an integral part of our society.

As the Governor of this beautiful state, I am committed to supporting initiatives that uplift our state and its people. Let us pledge on this day to continue striving for progress, peace and prosperity for Nagaland.

May God bless Nagaland and the people.

Thankyou, Kuknalim & Jai Hind!