

Republic Day Speech 26th January, 2022

I offer my sincere greetings to everyone gathered here on the auspicious occasion of the 73rd Republic Day of our great nation.

It has been 75 years of our gaining independence from British rule and we have proudly completed 72 years of proclaiming ourselves as a Republic. It is a matter of great honour for all of us that it was on this golden date 72 years ago that our country had created its history by effectively implementing the Constitution and evolving India into a Sovereign Socialist Republic. It is a matter of great pride for every Indian that we are celebrating *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav* which is an effective medium to remind every citizen of our country of the intense struggle and sacrifice that generations before us had to undergo in order to break away from the chains of slavery under the British imperial regime. We should all realize that today it is our duty to uphold the independence of our nation and work unitedly and untirelessly to take India on the path of progress. Unless we understand the core essence of independence ourselves we shall not be able to convey it to the future generations.

Today, on the auspicious occasion of the 73rd Republic Day, we should not limit ourselves to merely paying lip-service to the spirit of independence of our nation. Every citizen should understand and ensure that gaining independence does not mean absolute liberty and we should always bear in our minds that freedom does not entitle us to commit wrong and harmful deeds. It is the responsibility of every Indian of this generation to keep ourselves disciplined and preserve our cultural heritage and march ahead in our day-to-day tasks by negotiating with the changes ushered in by modernity. The cultural heritage of India tells us that our conduct is the symbol of our upbringing and our upbringing serves as a reflection of our family, and finally of our nation. It is of utmost importance that those who are endowed with the responsibility of leading the society and the future generation should realize this fact properly.

On this auspicious occasion I want to convey this to all my friends, employees, students and everyone else that in our everyday conduct and action we should be honest and dedicate ourselves to the nation. The national festival of Republic Day which is celebrated across the country irrespective of religion, caste, gender and community harmoniously with the spirit goodwill towards one another is a day of great pride for us as it is a symbol of us being the citizens of an independent country. 26th January was chosen as the Republic Day because it was on this date in 1929 that the Indian National Congress had declared *Purna Swaraj* from British rule. This day is an occasion for us to remember and pay homage to all our freedom fighters who laid down their lives for enabling us to breathe in free air. 26th January is very important for every Indian as it was on the 26th of January 1950 that the Constitution of our country came into force and Indian became a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic. The Constitution of India is the longest constitution in the world. There are 395 Articles and 12 Schedules in the Indian Constitution which are divided into 22 parts.

It took nearly two and a half years in preparing this Constitution. The Constitution of India guarantees all its citizens the right to education, right to equality, right to expression and several other rights for the better realization of a fulfilled life. The implementation of the

words of the Constitution greatly helped in abolishing certain evil practices rampant in the Indian society such as the practice of discrimination on the basis of caste and community.

Though the country has improved a lot and a good amount of progress has been achieved, still it is facing the major issues such as pollution, poverty, unemployment and illiteracy. The unified effort of all the citizens is of great importance in tackling these issues and taking the country on the path of progress. In this regard, we can all pledge to make ourselves better versions of ourselves; it will be only then that we shall be able to find solutions to all these problems and succeed in providing our country with a better future. Netaji Subhash Chandra has rightly:

“Life loses half of its interest if there is no struggle, if there are no risk to be taken. It is our duty to pay for our liberty with our own blood.”

With these words, I once again greet everyone on this auspicious occasion of National significance and wish everyone good health and peace of mind, while at the same time I also exhort all of us to dedicate ourselves to the service of the nation in our deeds and thoughts.

Jai Hind!

Jai Arunachal!