

MESSAGE OF SHRI P.B. ACHARYA, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF NAGALAND ON THE
OCCASION OF STATEHOOD DAY OF NAGALAND TO BE BROADCASTED OVER
ALL INDIA RADIO AND DOORDARSHAN, KOHIMA

Dear Brothers and Sisters and Dear Children.

My heartiest greetings to you on the occasion of the 51ST d Anniversary of the Statehood Day. The first of December every year provides an occasion to salute the great visionary Naga leaders who played a pioneering role with grit and determination, to give us an honoured place as the sixteenth State of the Indian Union. Since 2000, we celebrate Hornbill Festival to commemorate our Statehood and resolve to preserve our distinct culture and traditions. The well being of our country, needless to say, depends on the well being of all its constituent units. Without Nagaland and this applies to any other part of the country also, India will be incomplete.

As we look back, we may remember that much effort went into the creation of the state and this may be the right time to acknowledge our debt to all those who put in their time, energy and immense effort for this purpose. In a country of one billion people, we have only 27 States (and 7 Union Territories. Though numerically (population figures) we may be comparatively small but in terms of our potential there is an enormous amount that we can and which we should contribute. Nagaland is very rich in bio-diversity, both flora and fauna. Nagaland flora and fauna vividly illustrates the diverse nature heritage that the north-eastern state is blessed with.

The Statehood Day is an important milestone in the political history of this beautiful State. The State has registered phenomenal progress in the field of health-care, education, social services, hospitality, tourism, culture, agriculture, horticulture, and IT sectors that made the State a distinct mark in the national mainstream.

Regarding peace, it has been said that compassion is the foundation of peace and that compassion is the only way to peace. We may ponder upon it and it may be the answer to the pressing problem of the need for peace. Peace has been the most cherished goal for the State for all these years. We have to have peace in order to have growth and development. We have to ensure that we live in harmony with one another, have unity cutting across tribes and communities.

As we look ahead, we may also need to identify the challenges which lie before us. It has been said that in our work we should have a “larger vision” for the good of society and the people. I am confident that together we will overcome all obstacles and realise the vision of a vibrant and economically developed Nagaland that the founding fathers of the State had dreamed of.

I call upon all to strengthen the hands of the State Government and march upon the path of growth and modernity. I am confident that together we will overcome all obstacles and realise the vision of a vibrant and economically developed Nagaland the founding fathers of our State dreamed of. I want to wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous year ahead.

God Bless You All and Jai Hind.