Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah unveils ‘Arunachal Pradesh Cooperative Vision 2047’ and launches various development projects in Itanagar

New dimensions in connectivity, infrastructure and development have been established in the Northeast and Arunachal Pradesh over the last 12 years under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Since the Modi Government came to power, every State capital in the Northeast has been connected by train and air services; the region received a major connectivity push during Modi ji’s tenure

If we decide to source milk, eggs, fish and meat locally instead of bringing them from outside Arunachal Pradesh, at least 32,000 families can become self-reliant

The Vibrant Villages Programme has halted migration from 40 border villages in Arunachal Pradesh and people have started returning; facilities relating to electricity, water, education, healthcare and employment have been expanded

Army and ITBP personnel now procure vegetables, eggs and milk from local villages, creating employment opportunities and strengthening an emotional bond between the local communities and the forces

The State Government should formulate a programme focused on self-reliance through fisheries and dairy cooperatives

Every village in Arunachal Pradesh where climatic conditions are suitable for livestock should have a well-developed dairy facility

Do not worry about where the milk will be sold; NDDB and Amul will procure all the milk, and we will also establish a milk-processing plant in Arunachal Pradesh

Yesterday, the Chief Minister requested a second daily flight connecting Itanagar with Delhi. I spoke to Air India the same day, and an additional Itanagar–Delhi flight is expected soon

Union Home and Cooperation Minister launches major development projects worth ₹5,610.95 crore, flags off mobile medical vans and inaugurates the SARAS Mela

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Taking an important step towards strengthening the cooperative movement in the country and making it a powerful instrument of self-reliance and public welfare, a Cooperative Festival was organised today in Itanagar, the capital of Arunachal Pradesh, under the vision of ‘Sahkar Se Samriddhi’ of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the guidance of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah. Shri Amit Shah attended the event at the Dorjee Khandu State Convention Centre, unveiled the ‘Arunachal Pradesh Cooperative Vision 2047’ and launched various development projects for the State. Several important initiatives were undertaken to promote cooperative institutions, strengthen rural livelihoods, connect women’s Self-Help Groups with markets and accelerate the overall development of the State. Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Pema Khandu, Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs Shri Kiren Rijiju, Deputy Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Chowna Mein, State Home Minister Shri Mama Natung, Cooperation Minister Shri Ojing Tasing, Agriculture Minister Shri Gabriel Denwang Wangsu, Rajya Sabha MP Shri Tai Tagak, sitting MLA from Itanagar Shri Techi Kaso, officials of the Ministry of Cooperation and representatives associated with the cooperative sector of the State were present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah paid his respects to the sacred land of Arunachal Pradesh and said that it is the blessed land where the Sun God first arrives in the country. Arunachal Pradesh is known across India for two special reasons: its ancient tradition of Sun worship and its religious and mythological association with Lord Parshuram. He said that the connection between Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh is also around 6,000 years old. Lord Shri Krishna married Mata Rukmini, who is believed to have been associated with Arunachal Pradesh and later settled in Dwarka. Appreciating the extraordinary natural wealth and beauty of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri Shah, who hails from Gujarat, said that whenever he visits the State, the company of nature relieves him of all the fatigue and stress of Delhi politics.

Shri Amit Shah said that over the last 12 years, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, unprecedented priority has been accorded to the development and connectivity of the Northeast. Today, there is no State in the Northeast whose capital is not connected by rail and air services. Historic efforts have been made to connect the Northeast with the rest of the country through roads, railways, air services and now waterways. He said that the Northeast has received its greatest connectivity boost during the tenure of the present Central Government in the nearly eight decades since Independence. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has not only reduced the physical distance between Delhi and the Northeast but has also bridged the emotional distance

between them. He has personally promoted educational opportunities, skill development and employment prospects for the youth of the Northeast, while also highlighting the region's tourism potential across the country. Shri Shah said that the Prime Minister has also taken steps to promote industrial development in the Northeast in a manner that expands economic activity without harming the region's natural beauty and environment.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that the positive results of these efforts are visible across the Northeast, including Arunachal Pradesh. He stated that before the present Government came to power at the Centre, the budget of Arunachal Pradesh was approximately ₹12,000 crore, which has now increased to ₹36,000 crore. This is an important example of the development achieved by the State over the last 12 years. He also expressed happiness that during his two-day visit to Arunachal Pradesh, he learnt that the Arunachal Pradesh Police had been conferred the President's Colour. Arunachal Pradesh has become the 17th State in the country to receive this honour for its police force. This achievement is a matter of pride and honour for the entire State.

Shri Amit Shah said that the Central Government has resolved to develop the border villages of the Northeast as the first villages of the country, rather than treating them as the last villages. The Vibrant Villages Programme was launched with this vision. He said that the positive results of the programme are now becoming visible in villages along the China border in Arunachal Pradesh. Earlier, people were migrating from 40 such villages, but now residents have started returning and the population has increased. Facilities relating to electricity, education, healthcare, employment and drinking water have been strengthened in these villages. He said that, to promote the local economy in border villages, the Ministry of Home Affairs has ensured that the ITBP and the Army procure their essential supplies from local villages and their cooperative institutions. As a result, local women are supplying dairy products, eggs, vegetables, millets, flour and other items through cooperative societies. This has strengthened the local agricultural and rural economy while also deepening the emotional bond between residents of border villages and the security forces.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that Arunachal Pradesh has immense potential to make its rural economy self-reliant through the cooperative movement. He called upon the State to become self-reliant in the production of milk, eggs, meat and fish, stating that these products should not have to be sourced from outside the State. If Arunachal Pradesh achieves self-reliance in these four sectors, at least 32,000 families can become economically self-reliant. He said that this goal can be achieved through cooperative societies, fisheries cooperatives and dairy producer cooperatives. The State Government should formulate a well-planned programme for this purpose, and all cooperative institutions and women's Self-Help Groups should take up this challenge. He assured that the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and NABARD would extend full support wherever capital is required for these efforts.

Shri Amit Shah said that more than 56,000 people in Arunachal Pradesh are associated with the cooperative movement through 185 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), 52 dairy cooperative societies and 43 fisheries cooperative societies. Referring to the State's water resources and large hydropower dams, he emphasised the need to fully utilise the potential of fisheries cooperatives. He said that large reservoirs and favourable natural conditions could be used to promote cooperative-based fisheries, generating

employment for a large number of rural families. Similarly, a comprehensive roadmap should be prepared to expand dairy activities in villages where temperature and climatic conditions are suitable for livestock rearing. He assured that the procurement of milk produced in Arunachal Pradesh would be ensured by Amul and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), and efforts would be made to develop milk-processing facilities within the State. He said that the availability of high-quality livestock, formation of cooperative institutions and expansion of animal husbandry would be important steps in this direction. Representatives of NDDB and Amul would soon be sent to Arunachal Pradesh to prepare a district-level roadmap for dairy development. This would economically empower rural women and strengthen family incomes, as well as support the education and well-being of the next generation.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that the overall development of Arunachal Pradesh cannot be assessed merely through economic indicators such as the budget, Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) or GST collection. The true objective of development should be to ensure employment, education, healthcare and family well-being for every person in the State. He said that development should be visible not merely in government documents and statistics, but in the lives of citizens. Happiness on every person's face, a healthy body, an educated and capable mind, and the commitment to carry forward one's culture and values are the hallmarks of a developed society. Cooperative institutions should become a means of ensuring economic prosperity for every family. He said that building a developed Arunachal Pradesh is also essential to realising the goal of a developed India.

Referring to the contribution of the Central Government to the development of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri Amit Shah said that the State received ₹33,530 crore from the Central Government between 2004 and 2014, whereas ₹1,49,664 crore was provided between 2014 and 2024 under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, nearly four times the earlier amount. He said that during this period, the devolution fund increased 18 times and grants-in-aid increased by one and a half times. Highlighting infrastructure development in the State, he said that the 1,500-kilometre Frontier Highway has been approved at a cost of ₹44,000 crore. The 2,880 MW Dibang Hydropower Project has been initiated at a cost of ₹32,000 crore. Work has commenced on eight packages covering a total length of 266 kilometres on National Highway-913, at a cost of ₹6,600 crore. The approximately 300-kilometre Balipara–Charduar–Tawang road connecting West Kameng and Tawang districts, the construction of the Nechiphu Tunnel and the bridge over the Sisiri River in Dibang Valley are also important components of this development journey. He said that all three airports at Likabali, Hollongi and Tezu were built during the tenure of the Government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Responding to the Chief Minister's request for a second daily flight connecting the State with Delhi, he said that discussions had been held with Air India and efforts were underway to introduce a second Itanagar–Delhi flight as new aircraft become available.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that the Central Government has effectively implemented several public welfare schemes to ensure that the benefits of development reach every citizen of the State. More than 1.28 lakh farmers in the State have benefited from the PM-KISAN scheme, tap water connections have been provided to 2.30 lakh households, and 1.90 lakh people are being provided treatment facilities of up to

₹5 lakh under the Ayushman Bharat scheme. In addition, toilets have been constructed in 1.68 lakh households, 8.32 lakh people are being provided five kilograms of foodgrains per person per month, 56,000 gas cylinders have been provided and housing has been made available to approximately 48,000 families. He said that the Central Government is committed to improving the State's infrastructure and the standard of living of its citizens, and is continuously working to realise Arunachal Pradesh's potential in all sectors, including tourism.

On the occasion, Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs Shri Kiren Rijiju said that Arunachal Pradesh has the important responsibility of protecting its tribal identity, culture, traditions and land rights, while also ensuring that the next generation has access to better roads, education, healthcare facilities, modern technology and employment opportunities. He said that the State has limited capital and technological resources, and it is necessary to develop a balanced framework to attract large investments while safeguarding the constitutional and land-related rights of local communities and creating new development opportunities. Describing the cooperative movement as an effective means of achieving self-reliance in this direction, he said that cooperative institutions can play an important role in sectors such as agriculture, horticulture and tourism. Shri Rijiju said that since 2014, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the guidance of Shri Amit Shah, Arunachal Pradesh has witnessed significant transformation in roads and infrastructure, national highways and connectivity in border areas. The positive results of the Vibrant Villages Programme have also encouraged people to return to border villages. He expressed confidence that the goal of a developed Arunachal Pradesh, alongside a developed India, could be achieved by 2047, and that the visit of the Union Home and Cooperation Minister would provide a new direction and momentum to the cooperative movement and overall development of the State.

On the occasion, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah unveiled the 'Arunachal Pradesh Cooperative Vision 2047' and felicitated four cooperative societies for their outstanding performance. The Namsai Dairy Cooperative Society received the 'Cooperation Excellence Award'; the Lower Subansiri Fish Farmers Cooperative Society was recognised as the Best Fisheries Cooperative Society; Kemli LAMPS received the award for Best Handloom, Textile and Weaver Cooperative Society; and Jang LAMPS was awarded the Best PACS/LAMPS. NCDC presented a loan certificate to Lagun Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited; the Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL) provided 25 vegetable seed mini-kits; NABARD provided a micro-ATM to Poma Jute Dairy and Livestock Cooperative Society; and the Arunachal Pradesh State Cooperative Apex Bank Limited presented a loan certificate to Wakro LAMPS. A registration certificate was also presented to Khamyer Ane Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited, formed by a Cluster Level Federation (CLF) of women's Self-Help Groups.

During the programme, the Union Home and Cooperation Minister launched 'Mission Shikshit Arunachal – Phase II', with an outlay of ₹1,500 crore; the 'Chief Minister's Comprehensive State Power Development Programme', worth ₹2,000 crore; and the 'Chief Minister's Comprehensive State Rural Road Development Programme', worth ₹2,000 crore. In addition, 199 projects under the Vibrant Villages Programme in 11 border districts of the State, with an outlay of ₹110.95 crore, and 'Mission SURAKSHA' were also launched. Thus, a

total outlay of ₹5,610.95 crore has been earmarked for these four major development initiatives. The Union Home and Cooperation Minister also virtually inaugurated a foodgrain storage warehouse at Raga LAMPS under the Grain Storage Scheme and launched an e-commerce webpage for products of the Arunachal State Rural Livelihoods Mission (ArSRLM). These initiatives will strengthen the storage capacity of cooperative institutions, improve market access for rural products and promote the economic activities of women's Self-Help Groups.

At the beginning of the programme, Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah flagged off mobile medical vans and inaugurated the SARAS Mela. He visited various stalls at the Mela and interacted with members of women's Self-Help Groups and cooperative societies. The mobile medical units, flagged off for villages in 11 border districts under the Vibrant Villages Programme, are solar-powered and equipped with facilities such as telemedicine, AI-based portable TB screening, digital X-ray, ECG and modern laboratory services. The SARAS Mela showcased local products, traditional crafts and other items prepared by women's Self-Help Groups, providing them with direct market access and opportunities to market their products.

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