<u>Inauguration of the Court of Civil Judge-cum-Judicial</u> <u>Magistrate at Rangpo, East Sikkim on Monday, April 30, 2018</u>

Breaking from the convention, I will address first

Dear students;

Hon'ble the Chief Minister of Sikkim, Shri Pawan Chamling;

Hon'ble Law Minister, Shri R. B. Subba;

My esteemed noble colleagues, Sister and Brother Judges Mrs. Justice Meenakshi Madan Rai and Mr. Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan;

Mr. Justice A. P. Subba;

Local representative Mr. Gopal Baraily;

Registrar General, Registrar;

Law Secretary;

District Judge, East and Judicial Officers;

Principal Chief Engineer-cum-Secretary, Buildings & Housing Department;

Senior Advocates & Advocates;

District Collector;

Superintendent of Police;

Sub-Divisional Police Officer & his team;

Heads of educational institutions;

Members of Lok Adalat/Rangpo;

Print & Electronic Media;

Ladies & Gentlemen.

Today is the most auspicious day, i.e. Buddha Poornima, Full Moon Day. Lord Buddha, it is stated, was borne today in 563 BC. Lord Buddha life-long preached for deliverance from sufferings. Suffering means 'dukkha'. In today's context, suffering can be classified as - bodily suffering for which hospitals are needed at a close-by place and the second is suffering from injury caused by some errant members of the society and also denial of the rights to a person.

Firstly, a citizen or a member of civilized society must know what is his or her entitlement. In human context, entitlement is proper placement in the society, irrespective of the economic or social status. Each and every individual is entitled to enjoy basic human dignity. In the event of denial where one has to go, he has to go certainly to a Court to ventilate his grievances.

There is well-known saying-

न राज्यं न राजासीन ः न दण्डे । न च दांडिकह धर्मणैव प्रजाह सवहि रक्षन्तिस्य परस्परं ।।

It is the Sanskrit Subhasitani, meaning thereby there is no Kingdom nor a King. No criminal nor a Judge to impose penalty. All the people protect each other by virtue of Dharma. This is contemplation of an ideal society. In a democracy, there is no King as a Ruler but everyone is King. There may not be a criminal, that is why there is no penalty. Rule of Law is the King or Judge to correct the delinquency in the Society. The Judiciary is obliged to ensure Rule of Law in Society and as such, it is the responsibility of the Judiciary to rescue the aggrieved people from their sufferings and correct the deviation in the Society.

I take you to Rigveda called as Constitution of Hindu Society. Mandal 5, Sukta-60, Mantra-5

> अज्ये प्ठासेा अकनिप्ठास एते । सं भ्रातरा वावृधुः सौभागय ।।

No one is superior or inferior. All are brothers. All should strive for the interest of all and should progress collectively.

Further,

समानी व आकूतिः समाना हृदयानी वः समानमस्तु वेा मनी यथा वः सुसाहसति ।।

Let there be oneness in your resolutions, hearts and minds. Let there be strength to live with mutual co-operation be firm in all.

As I have expressed in the earlier part that to ventilate your grievances you have to go to judiciary. Today, it is a momentous, significant day for the people of Rangpo Sub-division. Rangpo is a gateway of Sikkim. The first impression about the governance and administration, one gets at Rangpo, people of Rangpo need a place where they can knock the door of Justice for redressal of their grievances. The State Government, on our request, has assured us to open a Civil Court at every sub-divisional place. Rangpo is the first place for which I must express my gratitude to Hon'ble the Chief Minister and his team. I am sure people of this area will take full advantage of the Court and will not feel pain of going all the way to Gangtok for redressal of their grievances.

My greetings and compliments to all of you.

Thank you.
