

**Speech on the occasion of
Inauguration of
Chief Justice's Bungalow
at VIP Colony, Gangtok
on April 27, 2018**

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Satish K. Agnihotri, Chief Justice.

Hon'ble the Chief Minister, Hon'ble Ministers for Law and Legislative Affairs and Buildings & Housing Department, My noble colleague Sister and Brother Judges, Chairman, Human Rights Commission, Mr. A.P. Subba, former Judge, High Court of Sikkim, Chief Secretary and other Secretaries to the Government of Sikkim, General Officer Commanding, Chief Engineer, Project Swastik, Additional Advocate General, Registrar General, Registrar, Judicial Officers and all the members of the Registry, Engineers involved in the project, Senior and other Advocates, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

The best form of governance is the democratic form of governance. All other system of governance are solely switching over to democratic set up. In a simple term, it

means self rule, choosing your own governance, norms and principles for yourself.

To sustain and develop democratic form of governance in a civilized society, there has to be Rule of Law. To ensure that there is a Rule of Law, robust judiciary is a must. Strong judiciary is *sine qua non* for democracy.

Any system including judiciary cannot function without proper infrastructure. The governance i.e. Cabinet cannot be contemplated without Chief Minister, likewise the High Court cannot exist without the Chief Justice. Hence, in such backdrop, there should be proper institutional residential building befitting to the office of the Chief Justice.

The Courts work in a specified time, sometimes aggrieved person cannot wait till opening of the Court to ventilate his grievance. In that event, an aggrieved person has to approach the office of the Chief Justice even at odd hours. Therefore, there should be a proper earmarked building for the residence of the Chief Justice. The State Government has provided a magnificent building befitting to

the office of the Chief Justice, for which the High Court is grateful to the administration, in particular, Hon'ble the Chief Minister.

I am sure, the State Government shall continue to extend all the help and cooperation to strengthen the judicial system in Sikkim.
