

Arunachal Pradesh

<u>Area</u>	<u>83,743 sq. km</u>
<u>Capital</u>	<u>Itanagar</u>
<u>Principal Languages</u>	<u>Monpa, Miji, Aka, Sherdukpen, Nyishi, Apatani, Tagin, Hill Miri, Adi, Digaru-Mismi, Idu-Mishmi, Khamti, Miju-Mishmi, Nocte, Tangsa and Wancho.</u>

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

NAME	PORTFOLIO	PHOTOGRAPH	TELEPHONE		
			STD code 0360		
			Office	Residence	Mobile
Dorjee Khandu	Departments not assigned to any Cabinet Ministers.		2212456		
			2212173	2214306	9436040032
			2212439	2100078	
			2211467(F)		
Nabam Tuki	Public Works Department & Urban Development		2211246(F)	2245531	
			2212607	2212606	9436040043
				2212606	
Tanga Byaling	Health and Family Welfare, Food & Civil Supply, Legal Metrology, Cooperation		2212953	2291261	9436040025

Jarbom Gamlin	Parliamentary Affairs, Power (Electrical),Tourism		2213112 2212452 9436040098
Takar Marde	Rural Development and Panchayat		
Bosiram Sairam	Education		
Chowna Mein	Public Health Engineering, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department		2212671 2213088 9436040040 2212036
Kalikhho Pul	Rural Works Department and Tax & Excise,Fisheries ,Law, Legislative & Justice		2212385 2211287 9436040010 9436040208
Tako Dabi Home			2212455 2291210 9436040030

Setong Sena
Finance and Lottery, Geology & Mining, Information, Public Relations & Printing, Trade & Commerce



Atum Welly
WRD, Civil Aviation



2212948 2351675 9436041508
2214041

Hongchun Ngandam
Horticulture



Population: 2008 est.: 1,200,000), extreme northeastern India.

Arunachal Pradesh attained its statehood on 20th February 1987. It is situated in the North-Eastern part of India with 83743 sq. kms area and has a long international border with Bhutan to the west (160 km), China to the north and north-east (1,080 km) and Myanmar to the east (440 km). It stretches from snow-capped mountains in the north to the plains of Brahmaputra valley in the south. Arunachal is the largest state area-wise in the north-east region, even larger than Assam which is the most populous.

It is situated between latitude 26° 30' N and 29° 30' N and longitude 91° 30' E and 97° 30' E. Itanagar is the capital of Arunachal Pradesh and located at an altitude of 530 meters above MSL. It is named after Itafort meaning fort of bricks built in 14th century A.D.

1	Population of State(2001 Census)	-	1, 091, 117
	Males	-	573, 951
	Females	-	517, 166
2	Literate Persons	-	487, 796
3	Literacy Rate	-	54.74%
4	Sex Ratio	-	901 females to 1000 males

5	Member of Parliament		
	Rajya Sabha	-	1
	Lok Sabha	-	2
6.	Member of Legislative Assembly	-	60
7	Educational Institutions		
	University	-	1
	Engineering Institute	-	1
	Polytechnic	-	1
	Industrial Training Institute	-	3
	Forester Training School	-	1
	Farmer's Training Centre	-	1
	Horticulture & Forest College	-	1
	Colleges	-	7
	Higher Secondary Schools	-	68
	High Schools	-	103
	Middle Schools	-	329
	Primary School	-	1280
	Pre-Primary Schools	-	137
8	Major Health Centres		
	General Hospitals	-	3
	District Hospitals	-	11
9	Places of Historical & Tourist Interest		
			<u>Bhismaknagar, Malinithan, Parashuram Kund, Itanagar, Tawang Monastery, Namdapha Wild life Sanctuary, Tippi Orchid Centre, Akashiganga.</u>
10	State Bird	-	Hornbill
11	State Animal	-	Mithun(Bos Frontails)
12	State Flower	-	Rhynchostylis Retusa(Fox tail orchid)
13	Major Tribes	-	20

Adi, Nyishi (including BANGRU & PUROIK), **Apatani, Bugun, Galo, Hrusso, Koro, Meyor, Monpa, Tagin, Mishmi** (including IDU, TAROAN & KAMMAN), **Sajolang, Sartang, Tai Khamti** (including KHAMYANG), **Tangshang** (including MUKLOM, LONCHANG, TUTSA, TIKHAK, HAWOI, LONGRI, MUNGREY, MUSHAUANG, LUNGPHI, JOGLAI, NGAIMONG, PONTTHAI, KHALAK, LUNGHAI, HALLEY, CHELLIM, SHECHU, SHIANGWAL, RERA, SHIANGTEE, DOHE, MOITAL, HATSENG, GAJEE, GAJA, KOCHONG, LOWCHANG, LAKI, GALLON, CHAMCHANG, RINGKHU, SHOHRA, BOWNGTAI, RONGRANG etc. of Changlang district and NOCTE, WANCHOO and TUTSA of Tirap district), **Yobin, Singpho, Sherdukpen, Khamba, Memba.**

14 Highest Peak in the State - **Kangte (7090 mts. MSL), in West Kameng District.**

15 Important Minerals

Dolomite, Graphite, Coal, Quartzite, Limestone, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Yello Ochre, Marble.

16 Other Natural Potential

Abundant forest resources and hydro-power potential.

17 Important Wild Life

Animals

Mithun, Elephant, Tiger, Leopard, White Browed Gibbon, Red Panthers, Musk Deer.

Birds

Hornbill, White Winged Duck, Green Pigeon, Sclater Monal, Bengal Florican, Temminick's Tragopan.

18 Important Festivals

Mopin, Solung, Nyokum, Lossar, Si-Donyi, Boori-boot, Dree, Reh, Sipong Yong, Chalo-loku, Kshyatsowai, Tamladu, Sarok, Nichido, Sangken, Mopin, Oriah etc..

19 National Parks - **Namdapha, Mouling.**

20 Main Rivers

Siang, Kameng, Subansiri, Kamla, Siyum, Dibang, Lohit, Noa - Dihing, Kamlang, Tirap.

21 No. of Districts - **16**

Tawang, West Kameng, East Kameng, Papumpare, Lower Subansiri, Upper Subansiri, East Siang, West Siang, Upper Siang, Dibang Valley, Lower Dibang Valley, Lohit, Changlang, Tirap, Kurung Kumey, Anjaw.

22 District Headquarters

Tawang, Bomdila, Seppa, Yupia, Ziro, Daporijo, Pasighat, Along, Yingkiong, Anini, Roing, Tezu, Changlang, Khonsa, Laying-Yangte, Hawaii

23 No. of Sub-Divisions - **36**

24 No. of Blocks - **57**

25 No. of Circles - **149**

26 Major Towns

Itanagar, Naharlagun, Tawang, Bomdila, Rupa, Bhalukpong, Seppa, Ziro, Daporijo, Along, Pasighat, Yingkiong, Roing, Tezu, Namsai, Khonsa.

Bordered by Bhutan, the Tibet Autonomous Region of China, and Myanmar and Nagaland and Assam states, it occupies 32,333 sq mi (83,743 sq km); its capital is Itanagar. Known under the British Indian government as the North East Frontier Agency, the region became Arunachal Pradesh union territory in 1972 and was granted statehood in 1987. China does not recognize the boundary (the McMahon Line) between it and Arunachal Pradesh. The state incorporates major ranges of the Himalaya foothills and has a rugged terrain. The population consists of many ethnic groups who speak dialects of the Tibeto-Burman languages.

A mountainous area in the extreme northeastern part of the country, it is bordered by the kingdom of Bhutan to the west, the Tibet Autonomous Region of China to the north, Myanmar (Burma) and the Indian state of Nagaland to the south and southeast, and the Indian state of Assam to the south and southwest. The capital is Itanagar.

Arunachal Pradesh, meaning “Land of the Rising Sun,” long has been a recognized region of the Indian subcontinent, receiving mention in such ancient Hindu literature as the *Kalika-purana* and the epic poems *Mahabharata* and *Ramayana*. Formerly known as the North East Frontier Agency (from the British colonial era), the area became the Indian union territory of Arunachal Pradesh in 1972, and in 1987 it became an Indian state. The region, however, has been the subject of an ongoing sovereignty dispute between India and China. Area 32,333 square miles (83,743 square km). Pop. (2008 est.) 1,200,000.

Land

Most of Arunachal Pradesh’s terrain consists of deep valleys flanked by highland plateaus and ridges that rise to the peaks of the Great Himalayas. The state encompasses three broad physiographic regions. Farthest south is a series of foothills, similar in type to the Siwalik Range (a narrow sub-Himalayan belt stretching across much of northern India), that ascend from the Assam plains to elevations of 1,000 to 3,300 feet (300 to 1,000 metres). These hills rise rapidly northward to the Lesser Himalayas, where some ridges and spurs reach 10,000 feet (3,000 metres). Farther north, along the Tibetan border, lie the main ranges of the Great Himalayas, where Kangto, the highest peak in the state, dominates the landscape at more than 23,000 feet (7,000 metres).

Drainage

The major rivers of the state are the Brahmaputra and its tributaries—the Dibang [Sikang], Lohit, Subansiri, Kameng, and Tirap. The Brahmaputra (known as the Tsangpo in the Tibet Autonomous Region of China and as the Dihang [Siang] in Arunachal Pradesh) flows eastward from Mansarovar Lake in Tibet before dipping south through the Himalayas into north-central Arunachal Pradesh. The river then winds its way southward across the length of the state, cutting a narrow, steep-sided gorge into the mountainous terrain. The Brahmaputra finally emerges onto the northern edge of the Assam plains—a finger of which extends into southeastern Arunachal Pradesh—near the town of Pasighat. It is joined by the Dibang and the Lohit rivers a few miles beyond Pasighat, just south of the Assam–Arunachal Pradesh border. West of the Brahmaputra, the Subansiri is the only tributary to cross the main Himalayan ranges. The Kameng and other rivers in the area rise on the southern flanks of the mountains. The Tirap River drains the southeastern part of the state.

Climate

The climate of Arunachal Pradesh varies with topography and elevation. The foothill zone is subtropical and has a hot and humid climate; in the lower valleys, summer temperatures in June, July, and August typically rise into the mid-90s F (mid-30s C), while winter high temperatures in December, January, and February usually reach the mid-50s F (about 13 °C). Average temperatures decrease as elevations increase in the mountains. Annual rainfall in the state averages about 130 inches (3,300 mm), falling mostly between April and September; in the centre of the state, however, this figure approaches 160 inches (4,100 mm).

Plant and animal life

Arunachal Pradesh's diverse terrain, climate, and soils are reflected in its fauna and flora. About two-thirds of the state is forested, with a wide belt of swampy rainforest lying along the foothills. Forests of tropical evergreens and subtropical pines (as well as subtropical mixed broad-leaved and pine forests) are found in lower elevations. With increasing elevation, these woodlands give way to mixed and coniferous temperate forests. Subalpine and alpine vegetation, with rhododendrons predominating, appears on the higher slopes. A great variety of medicinal plants, including ginseng and yew, also grow in Arunachal Pradesh, and they are used by much of the population for the treatment and cure of various ailments.

Animal life includes tigers, clouded and snow leopards, elephants, wild buffalo, serow and goral goats, many species of deer, and primates such as hoolock gibbons, slow lorises, macaques, and capped langurs. High-elevation animals include bharals (wild sheep), black bears, and red pandas. The rare musk deer and takin (*Budorcas taxicolor*) also are found in the state. Moreover, Arunachal Pradesh has an abundance of fish, many varieties of snakes, and hundreds of species of birds.

People

Arunachal Pradesh is home to dozens of distinct ethnic groups, most of which are of Asiatic origin and are in some ways related to the peoples of Tibet and the Myanmar hill region. Roughly two-thirds of the state's people are designated officially as Scheduled Tribes, a term that generally applies to indigenous peoples who fall outside of the prevailing Indian social structure. In western Arunachal Pradesh the Nissi (Nishi or Dafla), Sherdukpen, Aka, Monpa, Apa Tani, and Hill Miri are among the main tribes. The Adi, who constitute the largest tribal group in the state, live in the central region. The Mishmi inhabit the northeastern hills, and the Wancho, Nocte, and Tangsa are concentrated in the southeastern district of Tirap. Throughout the state, the tribal peoples generally share similar rural lifestyles and occupations; many are subsistence farmers who supplement their diet by hunting, fishing, and gathering forest products. Dispersed villages and isolated farmsteads are typical features of the landscape. Aside from the Scheduled Tribes, much of the remainder of the population of Arunachal Pradesh consists of immigrants from Bangladesh, as well as from Assam, Nagaland, and other states of India.

The tribal groups speak about 50 languages and dialects, most belonging to the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Sino-Tibetan language family. They are often mutually unintelligible; thus, Assamese and Hindi, both of which are Indo-Aryan languages, as well as English are used as lingua francas in the region. Each of the tribes follows its own social, cultural, and religious practices, and most are endogamous (marrying within the group). Many of the groups practice local religions that involve interaction with various spirits

and deities of nature. Ritual sacrifice is common, and a domesticated gaur (wild ox), locally known as a mithun, is especially valued as a sacrificial animal. Some residents of Arunachal Pradesh practice Hinduism, especially those near the lowlands approaching the border with Assam. Tibetan Buddhism is found among groups near the Tibetan border, and some tribes along the Myanmar border practice the Southeast Asian counterpart of this religion, Theravada Buddhism.

Agriculture and forestry

More than half of the population of Arunachal Pradesh is engaged in agriculture, but only a very small portion of the land is under cultivation. Although settled agriculture, including wet-rice farming, has expanded considerably since the late 20th century, many of the hill peoples continue to practice shifting agriculture (*jhum*), whereby land is cleared by burning the vegetation, is cultivated for several years, and then is abandoned in favour of another site when the productivity of the soil declines. Rice, corn (maize), millet, and buckwheat are among the chief crops grown by this method. Major commercial crops include oilseeds, potatoes, ginger, sugarcane, and vegetables.

Mithuns are widely kept, and yaks are important in the higher elevations. The Monpa herd sheep. Some groups also raise fish through aquaculture.

Arunachal Pradesh, with its abundance of forest cover, once derived a significant portion of its gross state product from logging and forestry. Production has dropped dramatically since the 1970s, however, largely in response to environmental legislation. In the early 21st century, forestry supported just a few local industries of small or moderate size.

Resources and power

Arunachal Pradesh has significant, though largely unutilized, resource potential. Among its resources for generating energy are rivers, coal, and petroleum; most of the state's power is provided by hydroelectric plants. In addition to hydrocarbons, other mineral resources of Arunachal Pradesh include dolomite, quartzite, limestone, and marble.

Manufacturing

The state's manufacturing sector consists primarily of medium- and small-scale industries. Basketry, weaving, and carpets are the main handicraft manufactures. Smaller-scale industries include rice and oil milling, fruit processing, manufacture of forest-based products, and steel fabrication. Sericulture (raw silk production) also is important, and the state produces many varieties of silk yarns. Industrial expansion has been encouraged by the state's economic development policies, and industrial estates have been established at Itanagar, Naharlagun (formerly Old Itanagar), Pasighat, and Deomali.

Transportation

The state's rugged terrain makes transport and communications extremely difficult. With few paved roads and no railways in Arunachal Pradesh, links with the rest of India are limited. However, there long has been an active trade network within the region, connecting villages at different elevations and even crossing the Himalayan passes into Tibet.

Most of the major transportation centres serving Arunachal Pradesh are in the neighbouring state of Assam; among these are the nearest airport, near Lilabari, and the nearest railhead is in Harmuty. State-owned and private companies operate regular bus service from Itanagar to various towns of Assam, including Guwahati, Tezpur, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, and Jorhat. Service also is available to Shillong in Meghalaya.

Constitutional framework

Arunachal Pradesh is a constituent unit of the Republic of India, and, as such, the structure of its government, like that of most Indian states, is defined by the national constitution of 1950. The governor, appointed by India's president, is head of state and is aided by an elected chief minister, a Council of Ministers, and a unicameral Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha).

At the local level, the state comprises more than one dozen districts. In general, these districts are parceled into a number of subdivisions, which encompass several blocks, towns, circles, and villages. Villages are the smallest administrative units.

Arunachal Pradesh does not have its own high court. Rather, the state falls under the jurisdiction of the high court in Guwahati, Assam. To handle cases from Arunachal Pradesh more effectively, however, a permanent bench of the Guwahati High Court has been established at Itanagar, with a chief justice appointed by the chief justice in Assam. Any case from Arunachal Pradesh may be referred to Guwahati, should the chief justice in Itanagar deem it necessary.

Health and welfare

In addition to the few general hospitals spread among the larger towns of Arunachal Pradesh, nearly every district has its own hospital. In more remote areas, health services are provided by community health centres and subcentres. Separate facilities specialize in homeopathic medicine. Although the rural character of Arunachal Pradesh has remained an obstacle to the growth of the state's hospital and health care network, the expansion of public water works and the extension of electricity to the villages have helped to improve rural health. By the early 21st century, more than three-fourths of the villages had a drinking water supply and about half were electrified.

Malaria, dengue fever, and tuberculosis are among the major health threats to the population of Arunachal Pradesh. The state government has participated in the country's leprosy eradication program, as well as in national programs to control vector-borne diseases (such as malaria, dengue fever, and Japanese encephalitis). Tuberculosis remains a major concern in the state, with hospital facilities specifically designated as tuberculosis treatment centres.

Education

Despite the presence of numerous primary, middle, and secondary schools, the literacy rate in Arunachal Pradesh continued to rank among the lowest in India in the early 21st century. There are a number of postsecondary institutions, including Arunachal University at Itanagar, which was founded in 1984. The state also has specialized colleges focusing on such fields as education, engineering, industry, and forestry and agriculture.

Cultural life

Tribal peoples in Arunachal Pradesh wear distinctive garments and headdress. The art of weaving is especially important, and textile designs are unique to each group. Dances are an integral part of community life. Losar, Mopin, and Solung are major tribal festivals. At such festivals, villagers often drink millet or rice beer, as well as tea.

Cultural institutions

Arunachal Pradesh has an array of notable cultural institutions, which together underscore the state's religious and cultural diversity. The state museum, which houses an ethnographic collection consisting of local archaeological finds, musical instruments, weavings, carvings, and other examples of material culture, is located in the capital, Itanagar. Also in Itanagar are the governor's residence and a picturesque Buddhist temple, each crowning one of the city's two prominent peaks. A Christian revival church and temples dedicated to the Hindu deities of Kali and Shiva are located in nearby Naharlagun. Bomdila, in the snow-clad Himalayan ranges of the state's western segment, has many Buddhist monasteries and hermitages, while Tawang, in the far-northwestern extremity of Arunachal Pradesh, is famous for its 17th-century Mahayana Buddhist monastery with gold-lettered Buddhist scriptures. Parasuramkund, on the Lohit River in the state's eastern region, is a place of Hindu pilgrimage where sins can be washed away in the local waters. Malinithan, in central Arunachal Pradesh, is an archaeological site and also a place of great sanctity.

Recreation

Arunachal Pradesh offers numerous parks, gardens, wildlife sanctuaries, and other natural settings for outdoor recreation. Bhalukpong and Tipi, both in the southwest, and Bomdila all are noted for their abundant flora, especially orchids. Namdapha National Park, near Dibrugarh on the south-central border, has a wildlife sanctuary inhabited by tigers and leopards. In Naharlagun the botanical garden at Polo Park sits atop a ridge overlooking the town. Other places valued for their unique scenery and natural environment are Ziro, set in a levelled valley of west-central Arunachal Pradesh and covered on all sides by pine-clad, stooping hills, and Ganga Lake just outside of Itanagar.

History

In 1912–13 the British Indian government made agreements with the indigenous peoples of the Himalayas of northeastern India to set up the Balipara frontier tract in the west, the Sadiya frontier tract in the east, and the Abor and Mishmi hills and the Tirap frontier tract in the south. Together these tracts became the North East Frontier Agency, which is now Arunachal Pradesh. The northern boundary of the territory (now of the state) determined at that time became known as the McMahon Line; it is about 550 miles (885 km) long and has been a lasting point of contention between India and China.

The boundary takes its name from Sir Henry McMahon, secretary in the Indian foreign department and representative of Great Britain at the conference held in 1912–13 in Simla (now called Shimla, in the state of Himachal Pradesh) to settle frontier and other matters relating to Tibet. To the British, the line marked the geographic, ethnic, and administrative boundary between the two regions, and delegates from Great Britain, China, and Tibet agreed that the frontier between Tibet and northeastern India

indeed should follow the crest of the high Himalayas. Two days later, however, the Chinese republican government disavowed its delegate and refused to sign a convention.

After the independence of India in 1947, China made claims to practically the whole area covered by the districts of East and West Kameng, Lower and Upper Subansiri, East and West Siang, and Lohit, arguing that the McMahon Line had never been accepted by China and was the result of British aggression. In letters to the Indian prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, the Chinese prime minister, Zhou Enlai, quoted a map in the 1929 edition of *Encyclopædia Britannica* showing the disputed territory as Chinese, with the boundary following the alignment of Chinese maps. Some Chinese maps before 1935 showed the North East Frontier Agency (Arunachal Pradesh) as part of India and since then as part of Tibet. The *Survey of India* (1883) showed the disputed tribal areas as de facto administered by British India. British and Indian maps since 1914 have usually followed the McMahon Line. If the Chinese claims were allowed, the Indian-Chinese border would follow roughly the margin of the Assam plain, a frontier almost impossible to defend. Following this dispute, Chinese troops crossed the McMahon Line on August 26, 1959, and captured an Indian outpost at Longju, a few miles south of the line. They abandoned this outpost in 1961, but in October 1962 they again crossed the line, this time in force. After first striking toward the Tanglha ridge and Tawang near the border with Bhutan, the Chinese later extended their attack along the whole frontier. Deep inroads were made at a number of points. Later the Chinese agreed to withdraw approximately to the McMahon Line, and in 1963 they returned Indian prisoners of war.