

SPEECH OF SHRI LA. GANESAN, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR AT THE INVESTITURE CEREMONY ON 31ST JANUARY, 2022 AT RAJ BHAVAN, IMPHAL.

Distinguished high ranking Civil, Army and Police Officials,

It is my great pleasure to be with you all in this Investiture Ceremony. I am, indeed, proud of you all. Today, let us all pay our tribute to (L) Col. Viplav Tripathi, Commanding Officer, 46 Assam Rifles who sacrificed his life for our Nation on 13th November last year in Churachandpur along with his own family and seven Jawans. His sacrifice, indeed, inspired all ranks in the Army. Assam Rifles is very popular, particularly in the North East and, therefore, is now-a-days popularly known as “**Sentinels of North East**”. Most importantly, Assam Rifles is taking a tremendous role in curbing drug menace and it is a matter of great satisfaction to know that IG, AR (South) recovered drugs of approximately Rs. 1800 crores. Excellent job.

I have been given to understand that present IG, AR (South) is posting out of the State and I wish him all success in his future career. Today, in recognition of their dedication to uphold the dignity of our Nation, I will hand over four Citations to four Units of Assam Rifles and one appreciation letter to IG, AR (South).

For the recipients and their proud families and friends, today is differently significant – personally significant. As anyone who has ever been the recipient of such an award knows, the time, dedication and hard work on the journey to being in this simple and solemn ceremony today, often belongs to more than just the recipient. And so I say congratulations to all here today.

Investiture in the Middle Ages was the ceremonial act of dressing people in robes to signify their taking up certain roles. In the eleventh and twelfth centuries, investiture was a serious business and not without

controversy! Such was the significance of investitures that there was a tug of war about who had the power to perform them.

I am pleased to say that in the modern age, such tussles are behind us, and it is my happy duty to have the opportunity of handing over these awards at a solemn ceremony such as this. Indeed, it is clear from the citations read today that you are here based on your meritorious actions.

It is truly wonderful to have this opportunity to recognise the arduous responsibilities discharged by the individuals who have, in a variety of ways, contributed to the betterment of our Nation.

We have heard of dedicated contributions made by the Security Forces to maintain law and order situation as well as protecting our country at difficult situations and places. It is also humbling to note the many varied ways in which those receiving these honours find ways of serving their Nation and communities.

I thank you for your contributions and congratulate you on receiving this recognition. I am fully confident that you will leave no stone unturned to discharge your valuable responsibilities to uphold the dignity and sovereignty of our Nation. May God bless you in your future endeavours.

Thank you all,

Jai Hind.