APLA@50 Outreach Connect Programme

Final Consolidated Narrative Report

Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (1975–2025)

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Introduction

The year 2025 marked a historic milestone in the democratic journey of Arunachal Pradesh with the completion of fifty years of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (APLA), established in 1975 as the Provisional Legislative Assembly. To commemorate this landmark occasion in a manner that extended beyond ceremonial observance, the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Secretariat conceptualised and implemented the APLA@50 Outreach Connect Programme as a statewide academic and civic engagement initiative.

The Outreach Connect Programme was envisioned as a people-centric and youth-oriented celebration that would directly involve institutions of higher education and the student community in reflecting upon the constitutional foundations, democratic evolution, and legislative legacy of the state. Rather than limiting the Golden Jubilee celebrations to official events, the programme sought to carry the spirit of the jubilee into classrooms, campuses, and academic spaces across Arunachal Pradesh.

Institutional Collaboration and Organisational Framework

In order to ensure academic depth, statewide reach, and effective execution, the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly identified Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), Rono Hills, as the principal collaborating institution for the APLA@50 Outreach Connect Programme. As the premier and oldest central university of the state, RGU's academic standing, institutional network, and affiliating role encompassing colleges across Arunachal Pradesh positioned it as an ideal partner for the outreach initiative.

Within Rajiv Gandhi University, the Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE) was formally designated as the nodal department responsible for the academic planning, coordination, and execution of the Outreach Connect Programme. The assignment of CDOE as the nodal unit ensured systematic outreach, logistical coordination, and continuity across institutions spread over diverse geographical and administrative zones of the state.

The collaboration between the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly and Rajiv Gandhi University symbolised the coming together of governance and academia for a shared democratic purpose. This institutional partnership ensured that constitutional awareness was disseminated not merely as information, but as a lived academic engagement grounded in dialogue, debate, and reflection.

Duration, Scope, and Geographical Reach

The APLA@50 Outreach Connect Programme was implemented over a period of four months, spanning from August to November 2025. Contrary to the initial proposal outlined in the brochure, which referred to the initiative as a year-long programme, the Outreach Connect Programme was successfully completed within this four-month period through an intensive and well-coordinated outreach schedule.

During this period, the outreach team travelled more than 5,000 kilometres across the length and breadth of Arunachal Pradesh, covering institutions located in the Itanagar Capital Region, Western Zone, Central Zones, and Eastern Zone. The programme engaged colleges situated in high-altitude Himalayan regions, border districts, interior and remote areas, as well as semi-urban and urban academic centres.

In total, more than twenty colleges and universities were directly covered through institution-level lecture series and debate competitions, in addition to combined inter-institutional and state-level academic events. Including both host institutions and participating colleges, the Outreach Connect Programme reached and engaged more than 10,000 students drawn from diverse academic disciplines, social backgrounds, and cultural communities.

Programme Components and Academic Activities

The APLA@50 Outreach Connect Programme was structured around multiple interconnected academic and civic engagement components. These included the Curtain Raiser Programme at Rajiv Gandhi University, institution-level lecture series, college-level debate competitions, a combined inter-institutional debate, essay writing and cover design competitions, and the State-Level Mega Debate Competition.

Each institution-level programme comprised a structured lecture series delivered by academicians, legal experts, and public representatives, followed by a debate competition on rotating constitutional themes such as the Uniform Civil Code, One Nation One Election, and the integration of customary law within the constitutional framework.

Participation of Legislators, Academicians, and Resource Persons

The Outreach Connect Programme witnessed active participation from elected representatives of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, including the Hon’ble

Speaker, Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, and several Hon'ble MLAs representing different constituencies of the state. Their presence at various outreach events provided students with direct interaction and insights into legislative functioning, governance challenges, and democratic leadership.

Academic depth and interdisciplinary engagement were ensured through lectures and keynote addresses delivered by scholars and professionals from fields such as history, law, political science, public administration, journalism, and civil society. This diversity of perspectives enabled students to connect constitutional principles with real-world governance, public service, and professional ethics.

Debate Competitions and Student Engagement

Debate competitions formed a central pedagogic component of the Outreach Connect Programme. At the institutional level, students actively engaged in structured debates that encouraged critical thinking, constitutional reasoning, and respectful articulation of opposing viewpoints.

The most articulate speakers from each institution-level debate qualified for the State-Level Mega Debate Competition held at Rajiv Gandhi University on 25 November 2025. This culminating academic event represented the intellectual consolidation of the entire outreach initiative and brought together the finest student debaters from across the state.

Awards, Felicitations, and Constitution Day Observance

Institutional-level debate winners were awarded certificates and trophies in recognition of their academic performance and participation. Winners of the State-Level Mega Debate Competition, along with the winners of the essay writing and cover design competitions, were formally felicitated on 26 November 2025 during the celebration of Constitution Day at the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

Prize money was distributed to State-Level winners in accordance with the approved guidelines, including awards for Best Speaker for the Motion, Runner-up for the Motion, Best Speaker Against the Motion, and Runner-up Against the Motion. The awards ceremony at the Legislative Assembly underscored the symbolic linkage between student academic excellence and democratic institutions.

Outcomes and Objectives Achieved

The APLA@50 Outreach Connect Programme successfully achieved its stated objectives by transforming the Golden Jubilee celebrations into a statewide academic movement. It strengthened constitutional literacy, promoted informed debate on governance issues, and nurtured a sense of civic responsibility among the youth of Arunachal Pradesh.

By engaging institutions across diverse zones and reaching students from varied socio-cultural and geographical backgrounds, the programme reinforced inclusivity and equity in civic education. The sustained interaction between legislators, academicians, and students created a meaningful dialogue between governance and higher education.

Conclusion

The APLA@50 Outreach Connect Programme stands as a landmark initiative under the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly. Spanning four months, covering more than twenty institutions, travelling over 5,000 kilometres, and engaging more than 10,000 students, the programme successfully blended academic reflection with civic engagement.

The collective contribution of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly, Rajiv Gandhi University, the Centre for Distance and Online Education, participating institutions, faculty members, students, and organisers ensured the success of this endeavour. The Outreach Connect Programme not only commemorated fifty years of legislative history but also laid a strong foundation for nurturing constitutionally conscious, informed, and responsible citizens for the future of Arunachal Pradesh.

Photos


50 Years
1975-2025
Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly




50 Years
1975-2025
Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly


Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly
Golden Jubilee Celebrations
1975 - 2025


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Celebrating
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50 Years
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50 Years
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CURTAIN RAISER
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4th August 2025
50 Years
1975-2025
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50 Years
1975-2025
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News Report

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