

## *Hindu*ite Pema Khandu is Arunachal Chief Minister



Pema Khandu was on Sunday 17.07.2016 sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh heading a Congress government, a day after the party pulled off a dramatic success winning back all its rebels by choosing a new leader, marking the culmination of fast-paced political developments.

Chowna Mein was sworn in as the Deputy Chief Minister.

Son of the late Chief Minister Dorjee Khandu 37-year-old Pema, who became the youngest Chief Minister in the country and the ninth in the tiny northeastern state, and Mein were administered the oath of office and secrecy by Governor Tathagata Roy at the Rajbhavan here. Dorjee Khandu had died in an air crash in 2011.

Addressing a press conference shortly after he was sworn in, Pema said an expansion of his ministry would take place only after the Governor returned to the state. Roy, who is Governor of Tripura, holds additional charge as Arunachal Pradesh Governor.

Pema said he would inculcate a “*Team Arunachal spirit*” among elected leaders irrespective of party affiliations for overall development of his state. “All elected leaders of the state would be made a part of the development process cutting across political lines.”

Eldest son of the family Pema, a graduate from Delhi’s prestigious **Hindu College**, had an early entry into governance after his father’s demise.

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