

SPEECH OF DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
MANIPUR AT THE INAUGURAL FUNCTION OF A LADIES HOSTEL
AT RIMS, IMPHAL ON 28TH July, 2018

Prof. A. Santa Singh, Director, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences,

All the Doctors and Faculty Members,

My dear students,

Friends from Print and Electronic Media,

Distinguished Invitees,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be here at the inaugural function of a Ladies Hostel to mark another significant event in the history of this premier Medical Institute in the North East. My heartiest congratulations to you all.

I am not here just to open the new Ladies Hostel but also to encourage you in the pursuit of excellence that we all know this Institute is capable of. We are determined to make it a healthcare centre par excellence not only in the NE region but in the rest of the country as well. The Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) has done the nation a great service by producing many young Doctors and Specialists who contribute substantially to the healthcare system. When the Institute was first established in the State as Regional Medical College, it not only served to bridge the gap in the healthcare system to a large extent but also pitchforked the quality of healthcare services in the State. It was on target in its early days to fulfil the aspirations of the people.

We can all agree, however, that along the way RIMS seems to have strayed and lost its way. We keep hearing with distressful regularity of patients complaining against poor service of Doctors, malfunctioning of life-saving equipments and non-availability of essential drugs. I have also been told that many patients are referred to Private Hospitals and Clinics for further treatment. I am not really aware of whether the facilities available at

Private Hospitals and Clinics are much better than RIMS and Government Hospitals or not. I strongly feel that it should be the other way round.

We should all strive to give our patients the best possible healthcare to gain full faith in our Government hospitals. I am happy that RIMS is now regaining the lost ground and it is better managed now. I am also in touch with the Union Health Ministry every now and then to smoothen its functioning. I am an ardent advocate for a good healthcare system for our people and which is within easy reach. I realised early the health deficit in the remote rural and hill areas of the State. That is why, I pursued vigorously with the Central Government for implementing the 'Flying Doctor' concept. 'Air Dispensary' is going to be a reality soon and this medical outreach will be in operation in the rural and hill areas of the State.

As we are all aware, medical students especially the ladies do experience a lot of hardships due to non-availability of sufficient hostel facilities. Medical profession is one of the most demanding professions today with new challenges all the time. The students need to be looked after properly so that they can excel in their chosen field. It is, indeed, a matter of great satisfaction that the RIMS has constructed a new Ladies Hostel to accommodate around 80 students. This will really be a great relief to the students as well as the RIMS authorities. I would like to make an appeal to the young medical students to take advantage of the health revolution that is taking place all around us and make best use of the opportunities that have been given to you by the Institute. Work hard as much as you can. Dream big and you can do great things.

I really appreciate the current management and staff of RIMS for taking such initiatives for the welfare of the emerging professionals. We all should work for the success of the students in their future endeavour.

My dear young students, once again I urge you to work hard. Seek the best possible advice from your teachers, read and learn more about best practices in healthcare, take advantage of the facilities offered by your Institute to explore the world of knowledge and give yourself the best possible shot at success. Patients are your priority and you should care for them with love, affection and devotion.

With these few words, it gives me immense pleasure to inaugurate the newly constructed Ladies Hostel today. Once again, I thank the RIMS authorities for inviting me to this memorable function. I look forward to meeting you, once again, in the near future.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.