

SPEECH OF DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR AT THE STATE LEVEL PAINTING COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL STUDENTS ORGANIZED BY NHPC LIMITED ON 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2018 AT RAJ BHAVAN, IMPHAL

Shri Th. Kiran Kumar Singh, Director of Education (S),

Shri Amitabh Srivastav, Chief Engineer, In-charge, Loktak Power Station,  
Friends from Media,

Distinguished Invitees,

My dear young competitors,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a privilege for me to be associated with this State Level Painting Competition, 2018 organized by Loktak Power Station of NHPC Ltd under National Awareness Campaign on Energy Conservation launched by Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power, Government of India. It is the second time that the painting competition is being organized at the Raj Bhavan, Imphal.

It is believed that India will cross Japan to be the world's third largest oil user this year and is expected to have the highest rate of growth of crude demand globally through 2040. This will definitely have a telling effect on the economy and development of the country as there is a limit to the availability of conventional sources of energy. The energy resources underneath the earth is fast depleting. I am very happy that in order to create better appreciation and understanding of the need for energy conservation in the country, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power launched "National Awareness Campaign on Energy Conservation". Energy Conservation is the only way which helps in maintaining the non-renewable resources of energy apart from replacing the use of non-renewable energy with the renewable energy. This kind of awareness campaign will bring better understanding on the subject and help in nurturing the innovative ideas to make India an energy sufficient nation on the global map.

Painting competition for students has been included as one of the activities of the awareness campaign, which would not only make the students aware about the need of conserving energy but at the same time would educate and involve their parents as well in the above cause. Each and every citizen of India must be aware about how to use energy efficiently, how to save energy for their future safety and for the generations to come in the posterity. They should follow all the rules, regulations and policies in letter and spirit to support the energy efficiency measures. Children are the biggest expectation and greatest hope of the country to bring positive changes as well as enhance its economic condition.

Organization of such competitions among the students will certainly have a good impact in the minds of young students. Therefore, to inculcate thought on energy efficiency among school children, Ministry of Power has taken this initiative of organizing painting competition on Energy Conservation for the students since 2005. The identified activity is one of the measures which will enable to create larger awareness especially on the domestic front. I am glad to know that the competition is being held at three stages, namely, School, State and National Level. Students of 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> standards under Group 'A' and of 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> standards under Group 'B' are eligible to participate in the competition. Cash prizes worth Rs. 95,000 per State/UT per Group - Rs. 34.20 lakhs for 36 States/UTs will be distributed to State Level Winners on the day of the competition, that is, today. For winners of both the Groups of National Competition, cash prizes worth Rs. 10.35 lakhs will be awarded by the Ministry of Power on 14<sup>th</sup> December which is also celebrated as National Energy Conservation day in the presence of eminent dignitaries. My best wishes to the winners of today's competition to fare well at the national level.

Painting has always had a special place in the life of humanity. The artist does not look at joy and sorrow, crisis and success, with ordinary eyes.

His vision explores the heart of things, looks for many forms in one and shows them as such. Paintings cannot diminish sorrow but help in understanding it and living with it. It gives strength in times of trial. It adds ecstasy to happiness. Today's painting competition has been with a purpose – to build awareness among the students for conservation of energy and to engage the young minds with the immense potential of non-conventional sources of energy. I am simply amazed by the creative imagination of these young people. I can see that their imagination can soar to any height and they are a very talented lot. Children are the biggest expectation and greatest hope of the country to bring positive changes as well as enhance its economic condition.

I must congratulate all the young participants in this competition for their beautiful paintings and I also thank the organizers for inviting me to this competition.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.