

SPEECH OF SHRI LA. GANESAN, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR DURING HIS VISIT TO WANGOI SUB-DIVISION, IMPHAL WEST DISTRICT ON 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2022

It gives me immense pleasure to be with you all today in one of the most important Sub-Divisions of Imphal West District of Valley District of the State. Although, I had interaction earlier with District Level Officers, this is the first time for me to visit this Sub-Division of this District. After assumption of the office of the Governor of the State in the month of August, 2021, I have visited all the District Headquarters except two or three. However, I will certainly visit those Districts also within a couple of months. Before having discussion relating to important issues of this beautiful Sub-Division, let me, in short, focus on COVID-19 pandemic. As you all are well aware that people all over the world are facing unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, which is now almost under control. However, I would like to appeal to all sections of the society to get vaccinated, which is the best way to defeat this pandemic.

As you are well aware, various projects have already been taken up by the Central Government for the welfare of the people of the State such as Renewable Energy, Swachh Bharat, Solar System, Opening of Bank Account coupled with Aadhar, Tree Plantation to protect our deteriorating environment, Physical fitness, Elimination of TB by 2025, etc.

Benefits of renewable energy are mainly to protect our deteriorating environment as it produces no green house gas emissions from fossil fuels and reduces some type of air pollution, diversify energy supply and reducing dependence on imported fuels and also create economic development and jobs in manufacturing installation and more. Therefore, we should take all these benefits from the Government and I sincerely appeal all of you to take this advantage in consultation with your representative.

Then, Solar Energy. There are so many benefits of solar energy, among others, impact on the environment, reduce energy bill, less electricity lost during long distance transport and improves grid security.

In education sector, Central Government has already introduced New Education Policy for the coming

generations. Central Government has given emphasize for physical fitness of our youths. Very fascinatingly, in recognition of the contribution made by the State of Manipur in the field of games and sports, Central Government sanctioned one National Sports University in the State.

State Government has already taken up massive tree plantation programmes in the State. However, I am, indeed, shocked to learn that few sections of our people resisted tree plantation programmes at few places which is a bad precedent. This is not in the interest of few sections of the society, but it is in interest of the people of the globe as well. I would like to appeal to all of you both in the valley and hills not to resist this philanthropic job in future.

“Swachh Bharat Mission”. As you are all well aware, Swachh Bharat Mission, a clean India campaign is the responsibility of all of us. It is a mass movement launched by the Government of India under the leadership of our Prime Minister to make India, Clean India by 2019. Cleanliness is holiness and this mission is intended to cover all the rural, urban areas and Hill Districts for

maintaining cleanliness all over the country. One important component of the campaign is elimination of open defecation in the country. Manipur is well advanced on this front and large parts of the State have been declared as open defecation free. Cleanliness would keep everyone happy and healthy in all respects physically, mentally, socially and intellectually by reducing the chance of diseases. I do hope this will continue on regular basis here also. Here, efforts of District and Sub-Divisional Level Officers with full cooperation from the general public will keep the Sub-Division clean and green by strengthening the existing green environment and also by developing new green cover in the District.

Another important point is “Tuberculosis – TB”. You would be very happy to know that the Government of India has already committed to eliminate TB from the soil of India by 2025. Therefore, I would like to make an appeal to conduct a survey within this District to find out number of TB patients and report to the concerned Department so as to enable them to carry out appropriate remedial measures.

One important point is to contain and prevent drugs. State Government has already started taking action against the poppy plantation which was welcomed by one and all the people of Manipur from both Valley and Hills Districts. Sometimes, I was extremely disappointed to know from the reliable sources and local dailies that the number of drug user among the youth is increasing manifold during the last few months. This has to be, in any case, prevented with collective efforts including the like-minded Civil Society Organizations and general public. This will be possible only by collective efforts and not by individual effort. It is a matter of great satisfaction to learn that a few days back, Hon'ble Chief Minister has inaugurated one Drug-Addiction Centre and I am fully confident that this State will be free from drug within a short period of time in case the Government with the full cooperation from the general public, Civil Society Organizations, etc, continues its present tempo.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.