

SPEECH OF DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR ON THE OCCASION OF SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF COUNCIL OF HIGHER SECONDARY EDUCATION, MANIPUR ON 30TH OCTOBER, 2017 AT MSFDC AUDITORIUM, PALACE COMPOUND, IMPHAL EAST

Shri Th. Radheshyam Singh ji, Hon'ble Minister, Education, Labour & Employment, Manipur,

Shri Vineet Joshi ji, Principal Secretary (Education-S), Manipur,

Shri L. Mahendra Singh ji, Chairman, Council of Higher Secondary Education, Manipur,

Dr. Maisnam Bidyasagar ji, Secretary, Council of Higher Secondary Education, Manipur.

Friends from Electronic and Print Media,

Distinguished Invitees,

All the participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with immense pleasure that I associate myself with the Silver Jubilee Celebration of the Council of Higher Secondary Education, Manipur. The celebration of Silver Jubilee of any Institution is a great event in the history of that Institution. The celebration of Silver Jubilee of Council of Higher Secondary Education, Manipur is surely of great importance and joy. I express my warm felicitations and greetings on achieving this important milestone.

It has, indeed, been a long and enriching journey of 25 years for the Council of Higher Secondary Education, Manipur. It is an occasion to remember all those who have contributed to this remarkable journey in one way or the other. It is a function which gives us an opportunity to rejoice and at the same time to reflect on our duty and responsibility towards further enhancing the image and reputation built over last 25 years. It is also a

moment of reflecting on our weaknesses and endeavour for improvement in future.

The Council of Higher Secondary Education, Manipur was established by the Government of Manipur in 1992 with a view to bringing about qualitative improvement in the field of Higher Secondary Education in the State. I am, indeed, very happy to know that the Council has progressively grown with the affiliation of one hundred ninety Institutions catering to above sixty-thousand students in the plus two stage across all the sixteen Districts of the State. The Council has introduced many initiatives in support of Government of India's "Digital India" programme during the last one year such as Online Registration, Bar Coding and OMR Tabulation in Evaluation and most recently online verification of Mark Sheets and Certificates under the National Academic Depository.

Education to me is not just learning to read and write but it opens the mind to understand everything around us. It is a dynamic field. Almost every day researchers are coming up with new insights into the learning pattern of the children. Theories and techniques that were considered relevant till a few decades ago have become outdated and they need to be either replaced or modified to suit the present. Children today are more aware of the changing world and tech savvy. It is imperative for teachers to constantly upgrade their understanding of children's interests and advances in pedagogy to stay relevant and effective in the classroom. It is very much expected that trained and skilled teachers are informed about all the latest developments. The need for pre-service and in-service training, therefore, is important and abiding. Here, the vital role to be played by the Council cannot be underestimated. This stage of higher secondary school education is extremely important as it prepares the young people for further specialized education in different fields – if foundation is strong, the future will be strong.

We now live in an age of knowledge. Knowledge changes very fast and the rate of change will further accelerate in future. This self-propelling technological progress, unlike 50 years ago, is altering the essential daily tools we need in our work life. So it is important to look to the future and find out what skills will be important in a few years from now, when today's kids enter the education arena and the work force. Education, as we all recognize, will then be more about how to process and use information and less about imparting it. This is a consequence of the proliferation of knowledge and to develop a quality of mind which can adapt to the fast changing world.

An ideal Council of Higher Education needs to keep abreast of the new technology and technology that is being developed and should possess the ability to make what is imparted a lifelong asset. It is heartening to note that the Council of Higher Education, Manipur during its journey in the last twenty-five years has successfully conducted all Class -eleven and Higher Secondary Examinations of the State. I congratulate all of you who shouldered the responsibilities and accomplishment your assignments with flying colours. I would like it to strive further hard and achieve even more while upholding its reputation. In conclusion, I wish you all success in carrying out your responsibilities in the times to come. With these few words, I thank the organizers for inviting me to this Silver Jubilee Celebration.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.