

SPEECH OF DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR AT THE PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY OF JAPANESE HOSPITAL MANIPUR AT JNIMS CONFERENCE HALL, POROMPAT, IMPHAL EAST ON AUGUST 6, 2017.

Dr. Bhimo Singh ji, Director, JNIMS,

Prof. Ranbir Singh ji, Medical Superintendent, JNIMS,

Shri Rajen Ayangba, President, Japanese Hospital Manipur and all others on the dias,

Friends from Media,

Distinguished Invitees,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am indeed delighted to be with you all here this morning on the occasion of Prize Distribution Ceremony to the dedicated staffs of Japanese Hospital Manipur. My heartiest greetings to you all on this occasion.

It is, indeed, heartening to note that the Japanese Hospital, Manipur has been rendering invaluable services in the health sector for the people of the State since its establishment in the year 2005. I am also very happy to know that the Nurses, Attendants and Technicians are giving their services in this Hospital voluntarily without any remuneration for treatment of those who belong to below the poverty line specially from the remote areas.

I am also well aware of the old relations between this State and Japan and the hospital is sponsored by the Japanese 2nd World War Victims Memorial Hospital Trust Manipur. Further, there is already a Peace Memorial, known as Peace Park at Maibam Lokpa Ching (Red Hill), in Bishnupur district constructed by the Japanese War Veterans in memory of Japanese soldiers killed here in the 2nd World War.

This is the symbol of cooperation between Manipur and Japan. The hospital is another step to foster further friendship and cooperation between Manipur and Japan.

Today, this occasion provides an opportunity to all concerned to be together, exchange ideas, reflect on the activities of the past and discuss the prospects and challenges for the future in providing better health care services to the people. I am very hopeful that the Japanese Hospital, Manipur will also be able to accomplish various humanitarian activities in the health sector. Here, I would also like to make a special request to the authorities of the Hospital to go to the far-flung rural areas where medical facilities are almost nil for providing the much needed health services. The basic objective of this Hospital is to provide quality medical facility specially to the rural areas where adequate health and medicare facilities are not available. I am glad to learn that though it started as a small Hospital, it is tirelessly endeavouring to cater to the health needs of the people of the State.

Health is quintessential part of life. All social and economic activities of a country are closely related to the health standards of its people. Investment for eradication of diseases like malaria, tuberculosis, cholera, etc. and also for prevention and control of the HIV/AIDS and H1N1 especially in the context of Manipur is of great economic value. With the rapid advancement of medical sciences, many diseases can now be prevented or cured. However, we are still to do a great deal. As for example, a number of diseases have been stamped out through immunization. Small pox has disappeared from the surface of the earth. In technologically advanced countries childhood diseases such as poliomyelitis, measles, diphtheria today occur infrequently and sporadically. Diseases like influenza and some others remain difficult

to control because of the many varieties of the viruses and capacities to mutate. Medical research is thus heavily involved in efforts to ascertain the immune system not only of AIDS but also of other diseases such as rheumatic fever, rheumatoid arthritis and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. Right now, the State is also facing the challenge posed by a bout of Dengue and Japanese Encephalitis. But we have great hope that we shall overcome such viruses/diseases. Here, the selfless services rendered by the staffs of Japanese Hospital is of immense value.

On this occasion, I appeal to the Staffs to establish a good rapport with their patients who are mostly poor and needy. I am confident that all concerned in the Hospital will put in their best to make this Japanese Hospital, Manipur one of the excellent centres for health and medicare in the State.

I thank the organizers for inviting me to this function.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.