

SPEECH OF DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA, THE HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR ON THE OCCASION OF KAUSHAL & JOB MELA ON 2ND DECEMBER, 2016 AT SANGAI HALL, HOTEL IMPHAL, IMPHAL.

Shri O. Ibobi Singh ji, Hon'ble Chief Minister,

Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy ji, Hon'ble Union Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship,

Shri T. Manga Vaiphei ji, Hon'ble Minister (Labour & Employment),

Officers/Officials of National Skill Development Corporation,

Friends from the Media,

Distinguished Invitees,

All the Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to be here with you all on the occasion of Kaushal Rozgar Mela, organised by the National Skill Development Corporation under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship. I am also very happy to know that this Mela will be of great benefit to the youth of Manipur. I would like to thank Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy ji and NSDC authorities for their kind cooperation and effort for making this Mela a grand success.

I believe that this Rozgar Mela, 2016 is a very good opportunity for the youths of the state, who intend to get a good job in their desired field. I would like to put on record my appreciation for the initiative taken by the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship to create skill and jobs for the unemployed youths of Manipur. I am, indeed, impressed to see an exhibition of a wide range of products made by skilled youths trained under the RPL initiative and the initiatives undertaken by NSDC Training Providers and Sector Skill Councils in Manipur.

As you are well aware, the entrepreneur is an agent of change and growth in any society. He puts productive machinery into motion by organizing, advising and utilizing different factors. From a job-seeker, the entrepreneur becomes a job giver. Thus, the availability of dynamic entrepreneurs is the first and foremost pre-requisite for economic development. Entrepreneurship plays a most vital and catalytic role in changing the society for growth and development. However, for faster development of small scale industries, some financial supports are indispensable. In this regard, I am told that no financial institutions in the state are properly extending financial assistance to these small scale entrepreneurs. Here, I would like to make a request to the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship to extend financial assistance to these small scale entrepreneurs through reliable agencies of the Ministry. A model entrepreneur is an innovator. Innovation is the one word which will present what you must try and do. By merely trying to see what others have done, we are not going to benefit.

Unemployment is one of the biggest challenges the youths of the state are facing today. The State Government cannot be the only provider for jobs. Skill development needs to be prioritised to meet the aspirations of the youth through training, enhance employability and employment. The objective of skill development should not only be to make the youth eligible for employment but also equip them with the entrepreneurial competence so that they can open new avenues for jobs. Manipur may not be having big industries but certainly has huge potential in the skill sectors. Since I took over the charge of Governor, skill development of the youths of the state has been an area of keen interest for me. The boys and girls of the state are most suitable for service and IT sectors. A large number of youths from the state are working in the hospitality and beauty & wellness sectors in different parts of the country earning good name for themselves and their organisations. Horticulture and food processing are other promising areas for skill development and job creation in the state.

I greatly appreciate the Job Mela being organised today to provide job opportunities for the youths of the state. I am told that about 1200 job seekers have registered their names for jobs on offer under different sectors. Such a Mela will certainly incentivise the youths of the state towards fulfilling their aspirations. The youths will not only get good employment and entrepreneurship ideas but will also help their assimilation in the national mainstream.

I congratulate the entrepreneurs of Manipur for their active participation in the Mela. I, once again, thank Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy ji, concerned authorities of National Skill Development Corporation and other concerned officers/officials for organising the Mela and I am looking forward to more of such event in future with the active cooperation from the State Government. I thank the organisers for inviting me to join this wonderful and memorable Kaushal Rozgar Mela.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.