

SPEECH OF DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR AT THE STATE LEVEL PAINTING COMPETITION ON ENERGY CONSERVATION, 2017 ON 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2017 AT RAJ BHAVAN, IMPHAL.

Shri Th. Kiran Kumar, Director of Education (School), Manipur,

Shri K.T. Rajah Pandian, Chief Engineer, Loktak Power Station, NHPC Ltd.,

Friends from Media,

Distinguished Invitees,

My dear young students,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to have this opportunity of opening the State Level Painting Competition, organized by Loktak Power Station, NHPC as a part of National Awareness Campaign on Energy Conservation, 2017 and to be amongst the young students who have gathered here for such a good cause. It is the second time to hold this competition at the Raj Bhavan to promote energy conservation. The first competition was held on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 and we really enjoyed ourselves to see those young competitors. I remember on that occasion, I was really amazed by the artistic talent of the young students.

As we are all aware, such competitions do certainly have a good impact on the minds of the young students. They help in moulding the character and habit of the students. Therefore, to inculcate the value of energy efficiency among school children, Ministry of Power has taken this initiative and has been organizing painting competitions on Energy Conservation for the students since 2005.

It is heartening to learn that in order to create better appreciation and understanding of the need for energy conservation in the country, Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, Government of India had launched "National Awareness Campaign on Energy Conservation". This

kind of step 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. The world is already facing energy constraint as the conventional sources of energy such as petroleum and coal are fast depleting. Countries in different parts of the world are turning more and more to non-conventional sources of energy such as solar and wind energy. The young generations should be equipped with all this knowledge to deal with such situations better.

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. So many beautiful paintings already adorn the Raj Bhavan, Imphal and I am seriously inclined to having more of them. I have seen and read about the works of the famous Painter of Manipur - (L) Shri R.K. Chandrajitsana Singh, popularly known as RKCS. Creative imagination of RKCS helps to make people understand new ideas. I am fully confident that among the young students, there would be many more future painters who will do the State proud. The central theme of today's painting competition is related to the contemporary topic of energy conservation and such competitions will benefit the society as a whole.

I am happy to note that this 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 day of the competition that is, today.

For winners of both the Groups in the National Competition, cash prizes worth Rs. 10.35 lakhs will be awarded by the Ministry of Power on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 which is also celebrated as National Energy Conservation Day in the presence of eminent dignitaries. These are great incentives for the young students. Seeing the enthusiasm and talent of the students, I am hopeful that Manipur will produce a number of winners. May God bless you all.

I wish the best of luck to all the young participants in this competition and I also thank the organizers for inviting me to this competition.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.