

SPEECH OF DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR AT A FUNCTION OF SANKALP PARV OF SONG & DRAMA DIVISION ON 29TH AUGUST, 2017 AT RAJ BHAVAN, IMPHAL.

Shri L. Jayantakumar Singh ji, Hon'ble Minister, Art and Culture, Manipur,
Shri Anurag Misra ji, Director, Song and Drama Division, Government of India,

All the Artistes of Song and Drama Division,

Friends from Media,

Distinguished Invitees,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be with you today in such an important function as Sankalp Parv which is being heralded as 360 degree programme to make India modern by 2022. Since Sankalp Parv is a significant event for a national cause in the State, let me congratulate the organizers, Song and Drama Division of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Sankalp Parv is an initiative under the 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' movement which is the dream of our Hon'ble Prime Minister for reforming our nation under the "New India Movement by making - Poverty, Filth, Corruption, Terrorism, Communalism & Casteism Quit India".

As you all are well aware, ahead of the 70th Independence Day, the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji invoked the Quit India Movement and exhorted the countrymen to wake up the same spirit to expel problems of communalism, casteism, corruption, terrorism, poverty and dirt from the country by 2022. Here, I would like to reiterate that the need today is not the cliché 'do or die' but to resolve to come together, persevere and work relentlessly with utmost strength towards making of a new India where people

of all communities live peacefully and harmoniously. I am confident that the people of the country will make every effort to banish poverty as well as to get rid of malice affecting the growth of the country for making 2017 the year of resolve. Therefore, five years down the line from 2017-2022, can and must play a decisive role for the future of India.

Five years from now, the country will celebrate 75 years of its Independence. The month of August is celebrated as an eventful month in the history of the country, a month of revolution — the non-cooperation movement was launched on August 1, 1920, Quit-India movement on August 9, 1942, and India attained Independence on August 15, 1947. This year's 15th August was celebrated as "Sankalp Parv" or the day of resolve and in 2022, marking 75 years of freedom, the nation will certainly transform into "Siddhi".

This five-years period, from 2017-2022, gives us a unique opportunity of 'Sankalp' to 'Siddhi' - a march towards a new India. It can ignite the transformation that will create an India, which our freedom fighters would be proud of. India is a fast growing developing country, earning respect and a well deserved place in the comity of nations. I am sure, this 5 years from "Sankalp" to "Siddhi" will give a big boost to the overall development of the country.

In spite of the development of non-personal modern media of mass communication like Radio, Television, Films and Social Media, the traditional media of live, face to face performance before audience, still hold an important place in the pattern of communication with the masses. Live media comprising traditional and the folk forms is being used by the Song & Drama division for plan publicity. Important aspects of the country's life and development in different fields are being showcased through drama, folk, traditional plays, dance-drama, folk recitals and puppet shows.

I strongly believe that through such functions, as has been initiated by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and through support of the collaborating partners, we shall be able to take the country forward. With these words, I once again compliment the Song and Drama Division and wish them every success in their endeavour.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.