

**Speech of the Hon'ble Governor for the inauguration of Poshan
Maah (Month) on September 4, 2019**

Namaskar,

Good morning to everybody present here. I am delighted to be present here on this noble occasion. It is a noble because we all converged here to celebrate Poshan Month to eradicate malnutrition among our children and mothers by providing them nutritious food.

I thank Social Welfare Department for drawing a broad road map in the state for exhaustive roll out of Poshan Abhiyaan which is a brain child of our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji to improve the nutritional outcomes for children, adolescents, pregnant women and lactating mothers by leveraging technological tools.

It makes sense for me to reiterate before you that the objective of POSHAN Abhiyaan is to reduce stunting in identified areas with the highest malnutrition burden by improving utilization of key Anganwadi Services and improving the quality of Anganwadi Services delivery. In our state the Poshan Abhiyaan is being replicated in all the 33 districts with targeted intervention of tea garden areas.

Since we have all assembled here to launch the Poshan Month, it should be our one liner objective to generate awareness about this mission to involve more and more people so that no targeted group is left behind. At the same time special emphasis should be given at the tea garden areas to make up the nutritional deficiency and reduce low

birth weight. Though the programme strives to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, anemia and low birth weight babies, according to me without the unified efforts it will be very difficult to achieve the target.

I, therefore, underscore the need for inter-departmental convergence for making Poshan Abhiyaan a huge success. I, at the same time advocate on ICT based Real Time Monitoring system, incentivizing Anganwadi Workers for using IT based tools, introducing measurement of height of children at the Anganwadi Centres, Social Audits to achieve the objective of attaining a malnutrition free India by 2022.

My dear brothers and sisters, mal-nutrition is intrinsically associated with strict adherence of cleanliness habits. So while we all will be busy in making Poshan Abhiyaan a grand success, Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan will have to be given due importance. This month long Poshan Abhiyaan should bring together various stakeholders involved in the mission on the same plane along with sharing and disseminating success stories in the area of nutrition.

I urge upon Social Welfare Minister Pramila Rani Brahma ji to motive her officers to transform Poshan Abhiyaan into a Jana Andolan so that no target group is deprived of nutrition. I also appeal everybody to use Poshan Abhiyaan as a tool to social empowerment.

The occasion, I feel does not warrant to giving long speeches. However, I sincerely feel that this Poshan Abhiyaan will really pull the string to wipe out mal nutrition to give health and hygiene to our children, sisters and mothers. On this occasion let us all take a pledge of making a mal-nutrition free by 2022.

Thank You

Jai Hind