

**Speech of Hon'ble Governor of Jharkhand on the occasion of 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Indian Association of Physiotherapists on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2017.**

It gives me great pleasure to join you here at the inaugural ceremony of the Annual Conference of Indian Association of Physiotherapists. I am happy to see you all here and heartened to see your interest to share knowledge, ideas and experiences in this field.

Health is a dynamic multi-dimensional concept. World Health Organization defines health as “a state of complete physical, mental and social well being and not merely absence of disease or infirmity and ability to lead a socially and economically productive life”. On one hand, health is a highly personal responsibility and on the other, a major public concern. Protection and promotion of health thus involve joint efforts of the individual, community, the state and service providers like you.

Health care delivery system requires the expertise of variety of professionals. The determinants of efficiency of the system is not only limited to the performance and quality of medical doctors but also to the quality and expertise of several allied professionals. In India, the health care delivery is a complex affair. There are different systems of medicine namely ayurveda, allopathy, homeopathy along with alternative and complementary systems such as yoga, naturopathy and traditional

homely remedies. In addition to changing health needs, a number of allied health professions like physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy etc. have emerged as mandatory components of modern health care system.

Physiotherapy or physical therapy is an established health care profession throughout the world. Physiotherapy deals with the prevention, correction and rehabilitation of the movement disorders. It is a system that essentially utilizes non-drug methods to achieve its objectives of pain reduction and functional restoration.

Over the period of time the physiotherapy methods have found much wider application and utility not in the rehabilitation of movement disability but also in the primary prevention and secondary care of the ailments affecting the neuro-muscular system. Many of the conditions corrected by this branch of health sciences cannot be treated by any other intervention such as drug or surgery or as a matter of fact, by any other system of medicine.

The need of physiotherapy is universal. 2011 census reported that about 2.83 % of the population was afflicted with some kind of disability of which locomotor disability constitute 55 % in rural and 52% in urban areas. The success of several advanced orthopedic techniques like joint replacement, ligament transfers and advanced soft tissue repair depends on skilled physiotherapy.

Sports participation is another area where the need of physiotherapy is universally known. The growing desire of the nation to excel in sports discipline has created the need for timely coverage of the sports teams. Overall physiotherapy coverage to the athlete is now considered an essential support service to the sporting persons not only for treatment of injuries but also for prevention of injury and speedy recovery.

Jharkhand is one of the states where there is a great need of physiotherapy services. It is important that steps are taken to improve the quality and coverage of physiotherapy service in the state. I believe that conferences such as this one allow us to exchange knowledge, thoughts and insights on modern developments and can inspire us to further improve the standards of care, thereby enabling a better quality of life for all.

I convey my best wishes for this Annual Conference.

Thank you,

Jai Hind!      Jai Jharkhand!