

Renewed Strength and Vigor for the Coming Year

This coming budget year 2017-2018, we should not go for “business as usual”. We need to practice out-of-the-box thinking, and apply innovative approaches in implementing activities of our health care delivery system for promoting overall health status of the population at large.

We are also expecting to get a reasonably high and sizeable amount of budget for 2017-2018 fiscal year. In order to utilize the budget efficiently, we have to simultaneously make our health care delivery system efficient. During the first year of the democratically elected government, with close and intensified collaboration between central level professionals and state / regional professionals, we have improved our work performance and updated the work procedures to the extent possible. We have conducted numerous capacity building workshops and trainings on the whole spectrum of technical areas of our work including administrative, management, logistics and financial aspects. The collaboration with INGOs, like-minded organizations, development partners, UN agencies and various entities had been greatly enhanced. But, there is always room for improvement.

The National Health Plan 2017-2021 will be available very soon. We need to be well prepared to start implementing it in the most effective and efficient manner. Here the “communication system and interaction” between central level professionals and state / regional level professionals is *sine qua non*. In addition, as much as possible, we would go for electronic or e-governance or e-system of work such as e-health. This would make our work less burdensome and work can be done in a shorter time period. The computerized human resource for health system will be available soon. We plan to streamline all information systems of various projects and programs within six months together with producing annual reports and latest health profile of Myanmar.

The key point that I would like to emphasize is holistic review of our capacity building workshops or meetings must be made as soon as possible and future capacity building workshops must be tailored based on the findings. We will also conclude numerous Agreements of Performance of Work (APW) with WHO in updating our SOPs, Guidelines and other technical, management and administrative works in support of our health care delivery system. We are in the process of having in-service reorientation and capacity building activities to all our basic health service staff in Myanmar in addition to Continuing Medical Education to staff of clinical domain in collaboration with Myanmar Health Assistant Association, Myanmar Medical Association, Myanmar Nurses and Midwife Association, etc.. The motto for the coming year is **“Let us work collaboratively in a team spirited manner”**.

(Excerpt from one of the speeches delivered to health staff by Dr Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports)

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