



New Year Message to the Staff of MoHS by the Union Minister for Health and Sports

Nay Pyi Taw (1st January, 2020)

- “First of all, I am pleased to convey my warmest wishes and the best of health and happiness to all the professionals and staff of the Ministry of Health and Sports for the year 2020.
- We all have been working very hard for almost four years to render quality medical care and public health services to our population residing in every nook and corner of Myanmar with increasing capacity and capability that we are attaining as we go along.
- Let us continue to serve the entire population of Myanmar with strong determination and also with renewed zest in a collective and synchronized coordination. Our penultimate objective is to achieve a condition of the State called “Healthy Myanmar”.
- The senior management, with ardent support and collaboration from respective State and Regional Directors, will further forge ahead by way of facilitating the administrative and management machinery of the Ministry of Health and Sports. We will also provide full technical and non-technical backstopping using the budget allocated for 2019–2020. I strongly call for rational and efficient utilization of available budget from the government as well as loans and grants coming in from outside the country.
- The technical domains that will be accorded priority attention for 2020 are: patient safety, public health and hospital information system, health literacy, school health, national supply chain management system, staff training, non-communicable diseases, ethics (medical, research, public health), digital or e-health, budgetary system management, implementation research, promoting “Exercise is Medicine”, revamping the sports domain, monitoring and evaluation. Through this, we intend to effectively reduce morbidity and mortality of diseases and conditions.
- While we are contemplating to concentrate on the above technical domains, we will critically and seriously review, streamline, improve and sustain our current activities with increasing momentum. All programs will have built-in checklist type of

monitoring system. The findings will be critically scrutinized and applied as appropriate to improve the performance of respective technical programs. We will also work more cohesively and closely with NGOs, INGOs, EHOs, UN agencies and development partners with proper framework and road map. In other words, we will try to get the most out of the support given by these entities.

- “National Health Policy” is being reformulated together with identification of newer, nimble and realistic strategies to tackle changing epidemiological conditions on all fronts. This can streamline our long term future plan of actions to cater to the specific need of our country in terms of specific groups of population, geographical areas and technical domains. We are also going to have a fresh look and update our strategies, interventions, standard operating procedures and guidelines of all programs: clinical as well as public health.
- Rational, realistic, and appropriate allocation together with effective and efficient utilization of available budget, both internal and external, will be the order of the day. As a matter of fact, we will be fine tuning and making our existing program activities/interventions more effective and efficient rather than initiating new programs and reinventing the wheels.
- While we are determined to serve our population, we should not forget to look after the health of ourselves and our families by practicing the notion of consuming healthy and wholesome food, practicing healthy life styles, refrain from smoking and drinking and most important of all is inculcating the habit of doing regular exercise as per our motto “Exercise is Medicine”.
- Let us pay undivided attention to the voices and perspectives of our customers, patients or population, especially those living in remote, underserved and hard-to-reach areas!

With best wishes,

Dr. Myint Htwe

Union Minister

Ministry of Health and Sports