

## **The notion of “sense of ownership”**

The notion of “**sense of ownership**” plays a very important role while we are systematizing the performance and functions of the health care delivery system in our country at this point in time. It connotes that if Medical Superintendents of various categories of hospitals as well as State/Regional Public Health and Medical Service Directors inculcate the spirit that they are managing and administering their respective work areas (both geographical and technical domains) as though “**it is their own family or own house or own domain of work or own property**” in an appropriate context. Likewise, Program Managers of various health programs in the Ministry of Health and Sports should consider along this line of thinking. If this spirit prevails among the staff of the Ministry of Health and Sports, we shall be able to achieve our objective of effectively serving our population at large with quality health care services and also for successfully reaching our long term goal of attaining the Universal Health Care coverage. The basic idea behind this is having a sense of “**dutifulness, accountability and responsibility**” by all of us. To support or attain this idea of “**sense of ownership**”, we should seriously adhere to the principles and practice of good medical ethics, nursing ethics, administrative/management ethics, public health ethics and research ethics respectively and without fail. After all, good ethical practice is one of the most powerful determinants in steering our work in the right approach and direction. So, let us work together and support each other without any reservation.

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

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