

DRAFT SPEECH OF HON'BLE GOVERNOR SHRI P.B. ACHARYA, GOVERNOR OF NAGALAND ON THE INDIA MISSION SUMMIT ON 4TH OCTOBER 2014 AT NBCC CONVENTION CENTRE, KOHIMA.

Rev. Dr. Anjo Keikung, General Secretary, NBCC,

Mr. Kakheli I. Jimomi,

Mr. Richard Howell,

Delegates from abroad,

Representatives from various Churches within and outside the State,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very warm good evening to all.

I am very happy to address this august gathering this evening. First of all I thank all the Organizers for inviting me to address this India Mission Summit being held in the capital of Nagaland. This is an occasion which is very historic for the Baptist International Ministries, celebrating the 200th Anniversary of its global mission and involvement in partnership with the believers in India for their 175 years of missions in India. Today is also a day to look back and cherish our glorious past. I have learnt that Nagaland Baptist Church Council (NBCC) on behalf of the Council of Baptist Churches in North East India organized by American Baptist International Ministries is hosting this Summit in Kohima. I am glad that the Nagaland Baptist Church Council (NBCC) strives to unite all Baptist Churches and Associations into a fellowship for their mutual tie and relevant ministry all over Nagaland and beyond. It upholds oneness in Jesus

Christ and to defend the Baptist faith and order in Nagaland. It also strengthens the Baptist Churches in Nagaland through appropriate activities and upholds value of life. The NBCC is ideally placed to instil in the people of Nagaland the true spirit of Christianity and the teachings of Lord Jesus Christ.

I congratulate all the Baptist delegates from all over India and abroad to celebrate their common heritage in the India Mission Summit (IMS). Our theme, "Celebrating the Past, Envisioning the Future" sets the stage for what will be a truly unique event.

Despite the different cultural and social backgrounds, we share the same witness to the sacrificial love of American Baptist Missionaries who started the Ministries in India more than 175 years ago. It is a time to remember the people who have shaped our ministry and made news and helped us grow along the way. They are also an inspiration for us to look forward and wonder where we will be in another years. This is a Milestone of such as this provides an opportunity to look back and celebrate the past and a reason to look forward and envision the future. It is a continued mission to serve the poor and the oppressed bringing them through a spiritual, educational, social, economical and healthy transformation.

I am pleased to learn that the Summit is designed to provide joyful worship, close fellowship and mutual learning while the delegates will engage in serious Biblical reflection and focus on finding their united voice and cooperation to bless India and the global world. It is a promise for the future. It is a great thing to celebrate and is a great time to recognise the progress and contributions of all those involved in the Ministry of God. As the churches and its various organisations are the most influential bodies in our State, I call up on the leaders to work hard to achieve complete peace in the society. The need for the State is to have stable and permanent peace

As we celebrate this Summit here in our State, it is a togetherness and fellowship that encourage one another to discern

God's direction for future missions and cooperation. I am sure, the NBCC has had an enviable record of service to the people of the State.

I also thank the worthy delegates who have come here from different parts of our country and the world to be part of the celebration of this historic event and extend to them a most cordial welcome. I trust their stay here will be comfortable and give them a chance to relish the camaraderie and hospitality of the people of my state. I am sure you will all go back with happy memories of the time spent here.

THANK YOU, JAI HIND