



(1959-2008)

**N**azareth Hospital, Shillong started as a small dispensary in 1959 by the sisters of the Missionaries of Christ Jesus on a piece of land donated by an English couple, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers. Nazareth hospital has come a long way from those humble beginnings. By September 1965, it grew into a 60-bedded hospital with OPD, Pharmacy and Laboratory facilities, inaugurated by the then Chief Minister of undivided Assam, B P Chaliha. Five missionary sisters and four nurses: that was the medical team then! The credit for this enormous transformation goes to the dedicated works of Sister (Dr) Ercilla Angeles, Sister (Dr) Amalia and His Grace, Archbishop Hubert D'Rosario, the then Archbishop of Shillong-Guwahati Archdiocese.

As early as 1970 the hospital started an outreach programme of Rural Health, which has since grown into a prominent feature of the hospital and so far a number of villages have been covered under the programme. Various benefactors, local and foreign, have contributed enormously towards the growth and expansion of Nazareth Hospital. The year 1971 saw the bed strength go up to 120.

In rapid succession came the nutrition programme, the Baby Clinic and so on. The next major expansion was completed in 1976 with the inauguration of a new annexe housing the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department, and a set of private rooms, taking the bed strength to 210. The Nursing School came in 1985 under the administration of the Salesian Sisters.

The administration of the hospital changed hands in December 1987 with the handing over of charges by the sisters of Missionaries of Christ Jesus to the Holy Cross sisters. Construction of the new multi-storey complex was completed and inaugurated on 14th November 1998. The hospital is now a 350 bedded multispeciality center, recognized by the National Board of Examinations for DNB courses in Paediatrics, General Surgery, General Medicine, Anaesthesiology and Family Medicine.

Nazareth Hospital has climbed 50 golden steps (years) in its history of providing holistic health care to the humanity. The inauguration of the Golden Jubilee Year celebration is scheduled for 22nd November 2008. We have a long list of activities for a year-long celebration of 50 years of Nazareth Hospital, Shillong. Many projects undertaken during this period will continue as a regular feature of the hospital as part of our commitment to the people we serve, with our motto "To Love, To Serve, To Heal".