

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated as Chief Guest at the inauguration of New Block in RKB Multi-Speciality Hospital in memory of Dr. Kasthuri Balaram

Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu participated as Chief Guest at the inauguration of New Block in RKB Multi-Speciality Hospital in memory of Dr. Kasthuri Balaram at RKB Multi-Speciality Hospital India Pvt. Ltd, Thiruvallur today (09.12.2019) and addressed the gathering.

Hon'ble Governor said, "I am delighted to be here at Thiruvallur today to inaugurate "The Dr. Kasthuri Balaram block" in RKB Multi-Specialty Hospital.

I came to know that this hospital is the first private hospital in Thiruvallur which was started 27 years ago in 1992 and is providing continuous health care service to the people of Thiruvallur.

The new block is being dedicated to the memory of Dr.Kasturi Balaram, to provide the much needed comprehensive standardized quality diagnostic services round the clock, super-speciality services like dialysis and the need of the hour emergency and critical care services to the people of Thiruvallur.

India has a rich centuries old heritage of medical and health sciences. Our country has had a great and glorious past in medical education and medical sciences. The approach of the ancient Indian medical system was one of holistic treatment. The 5000 years of Indian medical history can be traced to the Vedic times.

As you are all aware the origin of Ayurveda is traced to Dhanvantri who is therefore venerated as God. The word "Ayurveda" in Sanskrit means the science of life and longevity. It is well known that the science of Ayurveda is based on maintaining the right balance among the three bodily humours - Vata, Pitta and Kapha.

Sushruta, Jivaka Kumarabhacca, and Charaka were famous medical experts who showed the world how to treat diseases and illnesses. At a time when surgeries in England were done primitively, the most complex surgeries were being performed in India by well-trained surgeons.

Sushruta is credited with performing advanced surgeries, including plastic and reconstructive surgery. Sushruta was not just a great surgeon, but also a great teacher. He taught his students surgical skills by making incisions on the skin of fruits. He also taught them how to remove foreign bodies from flesh by demonstrating the extraction of seeds from fruits. His students were known to have practised on dead animals and on leather bags filled with water, before they performed surgeries on patients.

During the 17th and 18th centuries, there was a slow and steady growth of the modern system of medicine in India. Chennai was one of the pioneer centres where organised medical training was started.

As Dr. Donald M. Berwick rightly said, “Those who suffer need you to be something more than a doctor: they need you to be a healer. And, to become a healer, you must do something even more difficult than putting on your white coat. You must recover, embrace and treasure the share, frail humanity and the dignity in each and every soul.”

The 71st National Sample Survey (NSS) revealed that out of the total hospitalization cases in rural areas, 42% were in public hospitals and 58% in private facilities. The corresponding shares in urban areas were 32% in public and 68% in private. For some decades now, the trend has been to move towards private care facilities.

Tamil Nadu has always been an important centre for medical sciences. It is the first state to enact the Public Health Act in India. The state has an impressive record in reducing infant and maternal mortality. The state ranks first in terms of the number of children immunized. Private sector has established hospitals for many decades in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu is well known in India and Abroad for its Health Hospitals and Health Care. Many innovative techniques whether it be Liver Transplantation, or Robotic Eye Surgery, or Advanced Cardiac Treatment have been propagated widely in the State. It is a matter of immense pride that most cutting-edge medical procedures being performed anywhere in the world are now being done at Government Hospitals in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu is the main ‘Hub for Medical Tourism’ in the eastern part of the world.

The Government of India have already sanctioned setting up of 6 Government Medical Colleges in The Nilgiris, Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Dindigul, Namakkal and Tiruppur in Tamil Nadu. In addition to that now the Government of India have sanctioned to setting up of 3 more Government Medical Colleges in Krishnagiri, Thiruvallur and Nagapattinam. For this purpose, the Government of India is contributing Rs.1,755 Crores and Government of Tamil Nadu is contributing Rs.1,170 Crores. It is to be noted that getting sanction of setting up of 9 Government Medical Colleges in a year is a Historic Achievement, the Tamil Nadu Government has achieved.

Recently the Government of India has launched the Ayushman Bharat - National Health Protection Mission. The scheme has the benefit of health cover for Rs.5 lakh per family per year. This is expected to make a big impact on raising the quality of life, since it will lead to increased access to health care and medication. I am confident that will benefit many poor and vulnerable groups affected by cancer who could not afford and seek medical treatment earlier.

Today with changing lifestyles, there is significant increase in non-communicable diseases like diabetes, hypertension, chronic kidney disease etc. Our interventions must therefore cover infections like tuberculosis, dengue etc., and also prevent the complications of non-communicable diseases.

Specific protective measures like water purification, sewage treatment and development of personal hygiene routines help in disease prevention in communities.

I wish to conclude by saying that we have to make health care comprehensive, universal, affordable and standardized. For achieving this, the way ahead is complex and ardent.

It is important that everyone in this sector work together to fight the common enemies disease. Instead of bringing in distinctions based on private or public, urban or rural, allopathy or traditional medicine, we should all join hands and work together to make an impact.

I appreciate the efforts of the hospital management for showing enterprise in setting up this facility in Thiruvallur. They deserve our praise and support. I extend my best wishes to them. May they be successful in their quest to provide quality medical care with professionalism and dedication.”

On this occasion, Thiru. T. Prem Kumar, Thiru. R. Vijayanarayanan, Director, RKB Multi-Speciality Hospital, Thiru. Pratap Kumar Moturi, Dr. N. Aparna, Director, RKB Multi-Speciality Hospital, and other dignitaries participated.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai – 22

Sd/-

Date : 09.12.2019

Addl. Director (PR)

