

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit participated as chief guest at the 26th Anniversary Celebrations of Rajan Eye Care Hospital

Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit, Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu participated as chief guest at the 26th Anniversary Celebrations of Rajan Eye Care Hospital organised by Rajan Eye Care Hospital at Hotel Accord Metropolitan, T. Nagar, Chennai today (07.08.2021) and addressed the gathering.

Hon'ble Governor said, "It gives me pleasure to be here for the 26th Anniversary Celebrations of Rajan Eye Care Hospital, Chennai.

Eye sight is one of God's gifts to the mankind. An American poet and writer, Sylvia Plath said, and I quote, "I shut my eyes and all the world drops dead; I lift my eyes and all is born again". So true. For, our eyesight is one of the most important and fascinating faculties of a human being, which unfolds all the beauty this world has to offer.

The eye is one of the most complex organs of the human body about which a lot of study has already been undertaken and about which many more interesting and useful discoveries will be made. It is also among the foremost of the sensory organs in providing inputs to the human brain.

Ophthalmology is a super speciality in medicine that deals with the anatomy, physiology and diseases of the eyeball and orbit. In the recent years, the field of ophthalmology has grown leaps and bound beyond expectation. The technologies developed in the modern era aid the skill and surgical expertise of an ophthalmologist. The Ophthalmologists and Ophthalmic Surgeons treat eye diseases, prescribe glasses or contact lenses, implement laser therapy, and perform surgeries in the anterior segment and posterior segment of the eye.

Since inception in 1995, Rajan Eye Care Hospital has been at the forefront of making quality eye care available, accessible and affordable to one and all.

Over the last 26 years, it has constantly and consistently ramped up its operations towards prevention of blindness and eliminating avoidable blindness in this part of the

country. While doing so, the organizational philosophy of Rajan Eye Care Hospital has always been anchored in delivering the best of eye care benchmarked to world standards.

Because of the integrated efforts of the Government of India, State Government of Tamil Nadu and various non-government organizations, blindness due to cataract and the cataract backlog has become much less now in comparison to the past. Blindness due to other problems like Diabetic Retinopathy, Glaucoma etc., are increasing, however. So there is a need for a comprehensive approach to take care of not only cataract but also other aspects of curable blindness.

Nano technology, Robotics and Artificial Intelligence are likely to create newer methodologies for not only diagnosis and treatment of eye ailments, but also to provide solutions for preventive care. State-of-Art Tele Ophthalmology, Smart Phone Applications and, Wearable technology like smart watches have already become a reality and are making significant in-roads in ophthalmic delivery.

The National Programme of Control of Blindness is one of the most successful programmes of the Government of India.

Countries like India will also have a need to encourage faster and precision-based systems of medical treatment so that large populations can be covered within shortest possible time. Robotic eye surgery is one such example which is being increasingly adopted to bring in greater precision and speed in surgical procedures related to the eye. In India, Tamil Nadu has traditionally been considered as the leader in the use of the latest procedures for medical treatment. In this context, the Robotic Cataract Surgery system available in the Rajan Eye Care Hospital will be one such revolutionary step. I am sure that this will enable the Hospital to attend to the needs of many more patients than would be possible with conventional methods.

Prevention is better than cure, is an old saying. While it is important for us to enhance our capabilities in the treatment and cure of diseases, it is even more important to ensure that the various organs of the human body gifted to us at the time of birth are properly maintained by adopting simple techniques. For example, for better eye care, it is well known that offering prayers to the morning sun helps in improving eye sight. This is so because it provides the automatic exercise for the ciliary muscles which envelop the eye lens. I am sure that the distinguished audience assembled here is also aware of many

other techniques such as exercising the eyes regularly to ensure that they are maintained in fine trim.

I am mentioning all this for you to appreciate that the ocean of knowledge is vast and limitless. While the system of medicine in which you have been trained has its own benefits, it is important that there is a continuous inter-action between different medical traditions, whether modern or ancient, whether of the West or East, so that they could blend harmoniously and rid one another of their respective defects. It is necessary to create a new model for health and healing, keeping the patient at the core of the treatment, without being fixated on a single system of medicine.

One of the major challenges faced by eye care providers is the chronic shortage of 'Cornea' needed for transplant surgery. This can only be overcome by large scale 'eye donation'. I appeal to every citizen of the state to pledge his/her eyes and also spread awareness on the importance of eye donation to save millions from losing their vision. Let us all play our roles in leading mankind from darkness to light. 'Tamaso ma Jyotirgamaya' is the saying in our ancient scriptures. I am only echoing those words of wisdom.

I appreciate the efforts of the Rajan Eye Care hospital management who have taken painstaking efforts to organize this function. They deserve our praise and support. I wish them well. May success greet them at every step of their journey whose quest is to bring quality eye care within everybody's reach so as to prevent blindness and enable a larger percentage of the pop-better to enjoy the benefit of vision that has been gifted by God."

On this occasion, Thiru. Ma. Subramanian, Hon'ble Minister for Medical and Family Welfare of Tamil Nadu, Prof. Dr. Mohan Rajan, Chairman & Medical Director, Rajan Eye Care Hospital, Dr.Sujatha Mohan, Executive Medical Director, Rajan Eye Care Hospital, Dr. M. Ravishankar, Senior Consultant, Rajan Eye Care Hospital and other dignitaries participated.

Raj Bhavan, Chennai -22

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Sd/-

Addl. Director (PR)