

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR  
OF TAMIL NADU AT THE UNVEILING OF THE ALL-NEW GE SIGNA PIONEER  
3T MRI MACHINE AT MIOT HOSPITALS, CHENNAI ON 10.10.2018 AT 10.30 A.M**

**Anaivarukkum Kaalai Vanakkam**

**Prof. Dr. P.V.A. Mohandas,**  
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**Thirumathi. Mallika Mohandas,**  
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**Dr. Prithvi Mohandas,**  
Managing Director, MIOT International

**Dr. R. Madhan,**  
Senior Radiologist, MIOT International

**Distinguished Invitees**

**Ladies & Gentlemen**

It gives me happiness to be here today, for unveiling the 3T MRI machine. The benefits that the installation of such a machine will bestow on the people of Tamil Nadu fills me with joy.

Health is Wealth is a famous saying. The importance of health care has never been so well understood as it in the present time.

Health care is an important determinant in promoting the physical and mental health and general well being of people. It revolves around the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease, illness, injury and other physical and mental impairments in human beings.

The delivery of modern health care depends on groups of trained professionals and para professionals coming together to form inter-disciplinary teams. This includes professionals in medicine, psychology, nursing, physiotherapy working along with many others such as community health workers, so as to be able to provide the best health care services to the people. But it is also necessary to psychologically relate to the patient.

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 shared, frail humanity and the dignity in each and every soul.”

Tamil Nadu has always been an important centre for medical diagnosis and treatment. It was the first State to enact the Public Health Act. The Government General Hospital and the Government Eye Hospital in Chennai are among the oldest in Asia. The State enjoys an impressive record in the reduction of infant mortality and maternal mortality rates. Private sector involvement in the establishment of hospitals for medical treatment has also been existent in Tamil Nadu for more than 100 years. The State ranks first in the country in terms of number of children immunized and takes pride in the thousands of eminent medical practitioners specialising in various fields of medicine. The Tamil Nadu model is the best prototype health care delivery system in resource-limited settings in the country and is worthy of emulation by other states engaged in developing a better health care delivery system. It is therefore no wonder that Tamil Nadu serves as a hub for medical tourism in the eastern part of the globe.

The growth and development of radiographic tests is fascinating. When Rontgen discovered x-rays in 1895, the world found it unbelievable and the New York Times first reported to it as an “alleged discovery of how to photograph the invisible”! No wonder the ray gained the name ‘x’, after the algebra symbol of the unknown quantity.

But soon Rontgen went on to win the first Noble prize for Physics in 1901, "in recognition of the extraordinary services he has rendered by the discovery of the remarkable rays".

X-rays helped revolutionize modern medicine as doctors could see inside living patients' bodies without having to cut them open.

After computers came into X-rays, we had CT scan or Computed Tomography Scan. This scan is arrived at by acquiring numerous digital radiographs and reconstructing them into a 3 dimensional model of the specimen using complicated computations.

The MRI scan is different as it uses magnetic resonance.

The MRI machines use powerful magnets to produce accurate and detailed pictures of internal body structures. T or Tesla, quantifies the strength of the magnetic field. We have come to 3 T or 3 Tesla today at MIOT International.

Electronic Imaging infrastructure that expedites accurate diagnosis can improve the quality of healthcare. Medical imaging is effective in objectifying the initial hypothesis and guiding the subsequent course of action.

One of the main advantages of MRI as compared to CT scan is that there is no “exposure to radiation”.

Many studies which were difficult to perform on 1.5T MRI, are now possible to perform on 3T MRI. This is because the images are acquired faster on the 3T scanner.

The 3T MRI provides excellent and detailed view of the structures of the spine, brain and muscular skeletal system to be evaluated.

It also provides detailed images of the blood vessels of brain and neck.

Similarly the ligament injuries in various joints can be studied in detail with 3T MRI.

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. The target beneficiaries of the scheme will be the poor and vulnerable groups and nearly 50 crore people will get the benefit of health insurance. 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. In addition, the unmet needs of the population which remained hidden due to lack of financial resources will be catered to. It will lead to timely treatments, improvements in health outcomes, patient satisfaction, improvement in productivity and efficiency, job creation thus leading to improvement in quality of life.

The scheme also ensures appropriate integration with the existing health insurance/ protection schemes of State Governments thus enhancing the coverage and providing greater avenues for expansion of health care facilities.

The medical profession is a noble profession.  
The famous French philosopher Voltaire once said

“Those who are occupied in the restoration of health to others, by the joint exertion of skill and humanity, are above all the great of the earth. They even partake of divinity, since to preserve and renew is almost as noble as to create.”

I therefore wish to conclude by saying that the mission before us is to make health care comprehensive, universal, affordable and qualitatively professional. For achieving this objective, the journey ahead is going to be difficult it is important for us to work together in a constructive manner to fight the common enemy i.e. disease. Distinctions based on public vs private sector, allopathy vs traditional systems and urban areas vs rural areas, should not be given any importance. We should all join hand in hand and march together so that we achieve success.

My best wishes are with the MIOT Hospital who have ushered in a revolution in Orthopaedics and other specialities through their innovative practices.

With this illustrious background and a open mind to accept the latest techniques in medical treatment, I am sure that the hospital will be able to record significant path breaking advances in the coming years to combat disease to make medical care more affordable and reduce pain, suffering and mortality rates. By doing this, they will be fully realizing the use of their talents and skills for the benefit of man kind.

I wish them all success in their endeavors.

Nandri Vanakkam....

Jai Hind....