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# प्रथम दीक्षान्त समारोह

गुरुवार, 30 अप्रैल 2009

## First Convocation

Thursday, 30 April 2009

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### Welcome Address

By

**Dr. P.P.S. Mathur**

Vice-Chancellor

Rajasthan University of Health Sciences

Jaipur

राजस्थान स्वास्थ्य विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय, जयपुर  
RAJASTHAN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, JAIPUR

His Excellency, Shri S.K. Singh, the Governor of Rajasthan & Chancellor, Rajasthan University of Health Sciences, Professor Panangipalli Venugopal, former Director, AIIMS, New Delhi, distinguished guests, members of the Board of Management, Academic Council, Dean, Faculty, members of media, staff of the University, my dear students, ladies & gentlemen.

It is my proud privilege to welcome you all on this auspicious occasion of the 'First Convocation' of our University. I congratulate students getting degrees today. I am delighted to welcome all the distinguished guests present on the dias who are celebrities in their respective fields of activity, be it governance, education, medical education or social service.

It is my good fortune to have the honour to work under His Excellency, Shri S.K. Singh, renowned diplomat & civil servant. He was India's longest serving ambassador to Pakistan (1985 to 1989). He was ambassador to many countries including Jordan, Lebanon, Cyprus and Afghanistan. Besides this, Shri Singh represented India at several notable International bodies like the U.N., its several specialized agencies, G-77 and International Atomic Energy Agency.

Our chief guest, Prof. Panangipalli Venugopal is a renowned medical scientist, a development expert, an excellent medical trainer committed to the cause of disadvantaged and marginalized segments of the population particularly in the developing countries. At his graduation in 1963, he was awarded the **Institute's Gold Medal for the Best Undergraduate** by India's first Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru.

After completion of his Master of Surgery (M.S.) course in 1967, Dr. Venugopal was awarded the Gold Medal for being first in order of merit. This award was given by the then President of India Dr. Zakir Hussain. Dr.



Venugopal was appointed as Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences on June 30, 2003 and he continued to head this Institute till July, 2008. In 1974, he established the open heart surgery program at All India Institute of Medical Sciences under the stewardship of Prof. N. Gopinath and later assisted in the establishment of Cardiothoracic Sciences Centre at AIIMS. This centre is the biggest Centre of its own kind in India with seven Operation theaters and a 34 bedded Intensive Care Unit. His team performs the largest number of open heart surgical procedures; normally about 3500 in a year including surgery for various complex congenital heart disorders, valvular heart diseases and coronary artery by pass surgery. Over the last three decades he has been associated with over 50,000 open heart surgeries and over 12000 closed heart surgeries. He has presented papers at many major National and International Conferences and published more than 250 papers highlighting the status of cardiac surgery in India. During this period he has been associated with the training of more than 100 Cardiothoracic Surgeons who are working in various hospitals in India and abroad. He has been decorated with many awards and honours by the Government of India, Delhi Government and other leading institutions. A few of them are **Padma Bhushan award, Dr. B.C. Rai award, Indira Priyadarshini award, Vijayratan award, Ratnasiromani award, Shresht Shree award and Award of Excellence.**

I joined this University on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2006 with a vision in mind. The University started functioning in two small rented bungalows with limited facilities at B-1, Sawai Ram Singh Road, Opposite SMS Hospital, Jaipur. The University shifted to its own building on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2007 at Kumbha Marg, Sector-18, Pratap Nagar, Jaipur. When I joined here, we had 98 colleges, 7500 students, 52 courses and only 1 faculty. Now we have 209 colleges, over 10000 students, 61 courses and 6 faculties. The University is conducting all entrance examinations like RPMT, Pre P.G., Pre D.M./M. Ch., Pre M.Sc. Nursing, RPTAHS, RPPT successfully in time with the limited staff.



The University's motto प्राणिनाम आर्त नाशनम् was chosen in keeping with the concept of service above self. We have no desire to rule over people, but we do have the spirit and the ambition to zealously fight diseases that cripple man.

The progress of a University is measured not only by the number of students who get degrees but also by the curricula which keeps abreast with the changing times. Keeping in view the above facts the University has started some new courses such as Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing, Post Basic Diploma in Oncology Nursing, B.Sc. Ophthalmic Technician, B.Sc. Radiation Technology, M.Sc. Nursing with different branches. We are planning to start P.G. Diploma in Asthma & Allergy, Diploma in Pediatric Surgery, , D.M. course in Endocrinology. In addition to the above we are shortly launching one year certificate courses, for the benefit of the public in rural and urban areas. These courses are in Anesthesia, Pathology and Microbiology, Radio Diagnosis, Dermatology, Obstetrics, Pediatrics, Ophthalmology, Polytroma, Critical Care, Orthopedic, Forensic Medicine, and different certificate courses in Super Specialties.

I am proud to mention that the University has signed MOU's with York University-Canada, Glasgow Caledonian University-Scotland, The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences-Canada, Alpha Laboratories & Alphaglobal-IT, Toranto Ontario. The University will soon have collaboration with **The North Shore University Hospital, New York** for exchange of knowledge, training of Medical Personnel, Medilink and introduction of latest Research Equipment. **Blair University of Perak at Malaysia** is keen to collaborate with us. For this we are in the process of affiliating our Medical and Paramedical Courses with Government of Malaysia and Perak State Government for the same. **Technology Bridge International, USA** has also shown interest to have collaboration with us for providing support to the students, nurses, practitioners planning to go abroad and to provide material

to prepare courses and curricula keeping in mind today's need for Paramedics like Opticians, Pharmacists and Physiotherapists.

I am happy to inform you that the construction of a 100 bedded Research Hospital is in full swing. This will not only provide hygienic environment for curing diseases but will also reduce considerably the present workload of other hospitals especially S.M.S. Hospital, Jaipur and thereby offer maximum relief to the economically weaker and middle section of the society. Besides this the hospital will be establishing routine and specialized laboratories of excellence and other investigative facilities.

The University has many miles to go. We have a vision and hope to see this University shining high in the medical, academic horizon. As I present the first batch of students who would be receiving their Degrees, I must admit that shaping the course of this University was a big challenge for all of us. "In dreams being realities" and as we march ahead we hope to convert all our dreams into realities and have a University which is a force to reckon with.

Finally, I conclude by once again welcoming you all to the first Convocation of the University and express my deep sense of gratitude to all distinguished guests, students for sparing their precious time and being with us today. We are immensely thankful to His Excellency, The Governor & Chancellor of the University for his consent and guidance and Prof. Panangipalli Venugopal for gracing this occasion by his benign presence.