



Speech of Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh

Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan

Participates as Chief Guest at the 'Old Students Day'

Programme of the Alumni Association of Kurnool

Medical College, Kurnool on 22nd December 2019

Dignitaries on the dais, friends from media, Ladies and Gentlemen. ANDARIKI NAMASKARAM.

I am glad to be here amidst you all on the occasion of 'Old Students Day' programme of the Alumni Association of Kurnool Medical College.

I deem it a privilege to also unveil the statue of the great scientist and our Former President Late Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, today in the premises of the college.

Dr. Abdul Kalam, stood as an icon of inspiration to the youth of the country, because of the honesty, sincerity and dedication with which he served the country. His love for the country and affection for the student community is well known and the youth of the country has been motivated by his words of wisdom.

The Kurnool Medical College, the oldest Medical Institution in Andhra Pradesh, has an illustrious past having been set up in 1955, coinciding with the formation of separate State of Andhra, with Kurnool as its capital, fulfilling the aspirations of the people of Rayalaseema region.

The College started functioning in right earnest from 21st July 1957, from the government buildings handed over to the college, consequent on shifting of capital to Hyderabad.

I am happy to note that the Kurnool Medical College presently has an intake strength of 250 MBBS and 140 PG seats apart

from the Super Specialty courses like DM (Cardiology) and DM (Gastroenterology) and more Super Specialty courses are expected to commence from the academic year 2020.

It is pertinent to note that the Kurnool Medical College and the Government General Hospital attached to the college, serve a population of nearly one crore not only in the Rayalaseema region but also the neighbouring states of Telangana and Karnataka.

I understand that the Founder Principal of KMC, Dr. C. Venkataramaiah, played an important role in the growth of the college and making it a Centre of Excellence in the field of medical education, by providing all the essential infrastructure.

I am happy to learn that over the years, the Kurnool Medical College has produced illustrious medical doctors who achieved international fame and won laurels to the College by becoming experts in the field of Medical science. Notable among them are the World Renowned Oncologist Dr. Nori Dattatreyaudu, International Expert in Gastroenterology Dr. Duvvuru Nageswar Reddy, Surgical Gastroenterologist Dr. P. Jaggannath.

I am happy to know that Dr. C. Prabhakar Reddy, Head of Cardio thoracic and Vascular Surgery, developed the Department of Cardio Thoracic Surgery with International Standards and completed 350 Open Heart Surgeries benefiting poor heart patients in the Rayalaseema Region, under the

guidance of the College Principal Dr. P. Chandra Sekhar and the Hospital Superintendent Dr. G.S. Rama Prasad. Together with team of other doctors, they are playing a key role in providing dedicated services to the patients.

Mahatma Gandhi was a great lover of the medical profession and wanted to become a doctor for the sake of serving the people.

Gandhiji did not pursue medicine but that did not diminish his interest in health and working for the sick and the poor. His interest in health, hygiene, nutrition and diseases was as great as his interest in politics. He insisted that adopting preventive measures for diseases was better than treatment. He also said that it was important to focus on cleanliness, a controlled diet and an exercise regimen, and that it was best to avoid over consumption of medicines, especially those that were not required.

Gandhiji said "Anyone who observes the rules of health will not need to knock the doors of doctors from day to day."

While he was in South Africa, Gandhiji used to visit a doctor's dispensary every day despite his busy legal practice and dispensed medicines, dressed wounds and rendered whatever other help he could. Later, he even organized an Ambulance Corps during the Boer War.

Medical profession is a noble profession, where people look up to doctors as God.

As the well known British writer George Bernard Shaw said :
"We have not lost faith, but we have transferred it from God to medical profession."

As members of the medical profession, you have immense responsibility and tremendous opportunity to serve the people and the society.

My advise to the young medical students is God has given you the opportunity to serve the needy people and save lives. Utilise the opportunity to your utmost satisfaction and serve the people and the society with self-less dedication.

Nothing gives you more satisfaction than giving back to the society. I request members of the Alumni Association of the Kurnool medical college to extend their support for the development of their alma mater, in the best possible manner. I thank the organizers for giving me this opportunity.

Jai Hind