

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
TAMIL NADU AT THE VIRTUAL LAUNCH OF MEDICAL CENTRE ORGANISED BY
RYA COSMO FOUNDATION AND RYA COSMO DISPENSARY TRUST AT SIR
MUTHU VENKATASUBBA RAO CONCERT HALL (LADY ANDAL CAMPUS),
CHETPET, CHENNAI ON 14.03.2020 AT 6.30 P.M**

Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam

Thiru Ajay Nahar,
Managing Trustee
RYA Cosmo Foundation

Thiru Suraj Kankaria
President,
RYA Cosmo Foundation

Thiru Prasan Chand Chordia
Trustee,
S.Badal Chand Chordia Trust

Thiru Harish Kankaria
Trustee,
Manoharraj Kamala Kankaria Charitable Trust

Distinguished invitees

Ladies & gentlemen

It gives me immense pleasure to be here today at the virtual launch of Medical Centre organised by RYA Cosmo Foundation and RYA Cosmo Dispensary Trust on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee Celebration.

Completion of twenty five years of service is indeed a moment of joy and satisfaction. I am informed that, RYA Cosmo Foundation is providing medical facilities at affordable cost to the underprivileged and marginalized

sections of the society under its Medibank Project “CARE THE UNCARED”. Cosmo Foundation strived to address the needs of the people over the years.

‘Health is Wealth’ is a famous saying. The importance of health care has never been so well understood as is 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.

In recent years due to changes in lifestyle and due to stress there has been rise in incidence of cancer cases. Cancer which is symptomatic of the dangers that society will have to encounter, if life styles do not blend with nature has become an important and challenging medical problem with which, the whole world is wrestling. Rapid urbanization has led to an increase in harmful behavioural patterns such as increased consumption of hastily cooked low-nutritive foods, reduced physical activity and increased exposure to alcohol and tobacco.

As per the National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research, the estimated incidence of cancer cases in 2018 was 15.86 lakh. While 16 lakh new cancer cases are diagnosed every year, the

annual mortality is eight lakh. The current health infrastructure is grossly inadequate to handle the growing problem of cancer.

Apart from the economic cost of cancer treatment, which in many cases, ruins the families of affected patients financially; the physiological, emotional and psychological consequences of cancer are immense and long term.

The Government of India has launched the Ayushman Bharat - National Health Protection Mission. The scheme extends the benefit of health cover of 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 certain that with this benefit the poor and vulnerable groups affected by cancer, who went without treatment earlier, will seek medical treatment for curing it.

Tamil Nadu has always been well known for the special attention that it provides to the sick and suffering. 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 in our Chennai hospitals. Tamil

Nadu is therefore figuring as the main hub for medical tourism in the eastern part of the world.

Recently, I inaugurated India's First Flex Arm Hybrid Cath Lab Operating Room at Kauvery Hospital. It is one of its kind facility which will greatly improve clinical outcomes.

It is the nobility displayed by the members of the medical profession who are tirelessly engaged in the diagnosis and treatment of the disease. India is growing and a healthy India is the best recipe for a wealthy India. I call upon the members of the medical profession to spread out to every nook and corner of the state and the country to help in the elimination of disease.

I am sure that all of you agree that the secret to happiness lies in leading a healthy life. To the people of the State, particularly the younger generation, I wish to advise moderation in their diet and daily one hour exercise, if they want to lead healthy lives.

It is important for us to work together in a constructive manner to make healthcare comprehensive, universal, affordable and to fight the common enemy cancer. In this mission, I request everyone from public and private sector, allopathy and traditional systems, to work together in urban, rural and also tribal areas and provide quality health services. We should all go hand

in hand and march together so that we can achieve success in eliminating the disease.

“Your greatness is not what you have, but in what you give”. I appreciate the humanitarian work done by RYA Cosmo Foundation. I am sure that the RYA Cosmo Foundation and RYA Cosmo Dispensary Trust will be able to record significant path-breaking advances in coming years to combat cancer and make medical care more affordable and reduce pain, suffering and mortality rates.

Ladies and gentlemen, “The purpose of life is not to be happy, it is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well”.

I conclude with the words of Mother Teresa, "Let us touch the dying, the poor, the lonely and the unwanted according to the graces we have received and let us not be ashamed or slow to do the humble work."

I extend my best wishes and greetings to the Trustees and the office-bearers of the RYA Cosmo Foundation and the RYA Cosmo Dispensary Trust on this momentous occasion. May they be visited with success in all their noble endeavours.

Nandri Vanakkam....

Jai Hind....

Jai Tamil Nadu....