

ADDRESS BY THIRU CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU AT THE INAUGURATION OF JOINT PLENARY SESSION OF THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL PATIENT SAFETY CONGRESS & 7TH TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE WITH IT AT RAJENDRA HALL, ITC GRAND CHOLA, CHENNAI ON 21.10.2016 AT 7.00 PM

Dr.Prathap C. Reddy, Chairman, Ms. Preetha Reddy, Vice-Chairman, Apollo Hospitals Group, Thiru Lakshmi Narayanan, Vice-Chairman, Cognizant Technology Services, Dr.Andy Fischer, President & Members of International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth, Delegates from India and abroad.

Ancient India was a knowledge center and a pioneer in various fields. Its contribution especially in field of Medical science was immense. The advancements in areas of plastic surgery, extracting cataracts, patients care, dental surgery etc., and the art of healing had found a special place in our ancient medical system.

Ancient India's renowned medical practitioner of Ayurveda Charka said, I quote "A Physician who fails to enter the body of a patient with the lamp of knowledge & understanding can never treat diseases. He should first study of all factors, including environment, which influence a patient's disease, and then prescribe treatment. It is more important to prevent the occurrence of disease than to seek a cure."

He was the first physician to present the concept of digestion, metabolism and immunity. Be it in Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, Surgery, Medical Science or Mechanical and Production Technology, Civil Engineering, Shipbuilding & navigation and architecture or Fine Arts ancient India held a prominent place with Researchers, Scholars, Scientists and Pioneers in many fields.

Again today India is marching ahead in many fields and especially in the field of healthcare it is a most sought after destination. We are among the leaders in Information Technology. It is high time a fusion is brought between the Medical & Information Technology fields for putting in optimal use of technology.

I congratulate Apollo Hospitals for organizing these conferences to foster use of digital technologies for healthcare delivery system and for inviting me to the conferences.

Dear Doctors, Members of Medical Fraternity & Information Technology,

Thanks to the initiatives taken by our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to nurture entrepreneurship and promote innovation among the people especially the youth of our nation. His 'Start-up India' initiative is to develop an ecosystem conducive for growth and to make India full of entrepreneurs and job creators.

I am pleased to learn that in line with startup India, 30 healthcare technology companies are demonstrating their solutions and I am sure it will bring Indian Healthcare

to a global platform. I am confident that the Patient Safety Congress will demonstrate the best care practices.

The use of Technology to bring access of health services to every citizen is a very important aspect. It will ensure the positive growth of the economy. It is indeed true that only a healthy nation can have a healthy economy. It is therefore absolutely essential that best practices of patient care are adopted. I appeal to you to join hands in ensuring healthcare technology made in India reach the global platform.

Patient safety is the commitment that drives the best in the healthcare industry. It should focus on bringing a paradigm change in healthcare delivery. Over the years, this emphasis has evolved into a science that has been shaped and nurtured by the brightest visionaries in healthcare. The spirit of collaboration has transcended national boundaries and has created a body of innovative thinking and practices that have truly forged a stronger patient safety matrix in hospitals, across the globe. A strong safety culture will help to reduce errors and instil confidence and earn trust and faith of the patients.

I am sure such conferences will prove as a platform to share the experience & expertise to develop and enhance technologies to provide a holistic & advanced healthcare.

The future of patient safety should be the prime agenda. All stakeholders of healthcare including hospital administrators, policy makers should dedicate to improve health care safety through support, collaboration and partnership. I am sure the participation of International Society for Telemedicine and e-Health will help to create an awareness among countries across the globe while India will have a unique opportunity to showcase its medical excellence. I am sure this will place India on a high pedestal on global map of healthcare and as a pioneer in Medical Tourism.

Dear Delegates,

Healthcare Industry in India has immense potential to boost the economy. The branding of our nation as an “excellence hub for healthcare” is a matter of pride for all of us. Realising this, efforts to unite the best minds from Technology, Healthcare, Policy makers and other stakeholders will pave a way for transforming India into a global leader in healthcare.

I wish both the conferences all success.

Jai Hind. Jai Tamil Nadu.