

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
TAMIL NADU AT THE 1ST INDO-JAPAN HAND MEET 2019, THEME :
"DEFORMED HAND" ORGANISED BY INDIAN SOCIETY FOR SURGERY OF
THE HAND, INDIAN ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION, ORTHOPAEDIC
ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH INDIAN STATES, TAMIL NADU ORTHOPAEDIC
ASSOCIATION & TIRUCHY ORTHO CLUB AT HOTEL SANGAM,
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI ON 06.04.2019 AT 5.00 PM**

Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam

Thiru. Ravi K Mahajan,
President,
Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand

Thiru Terrence Jose Jerome,
Organizing Secretary

Thiru Yoshitaka Hamada,
Special Guest, Japan

Thiru Muralidharan,
Immediate Past President,
Tamil Nadu Orthopaedic Association

Distinguished Invitees

Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to be here at the inaugural ceremony of the 1st Indo-Japan Hand Meet 2019 being jointly organised by the Members of Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand, Indian Orthopaedic Association, Orthopaedic Association of South Indian States, Tamil Nadu Orthopaedic Association and Tiruchy Ortho Club. My happiness is doubled, since the meet is being held in Tiruchi, a city close to my heart.

The city of Tiruchi represents a blend of tradition and modernity. With its Rockfort landmark and the Uchhi Pillaiyar temple on the highest eminence of the hillock, Trichy city has always been a symbol of culture and heritage. The giant public sector undertaking BHEL, the National Institute of Technology and the plethora of medical and educational institutions in the district give it the added touch of modernity. Today international meet is one more mile stone that the city is recording on its onward march towards modernity.

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.

In this connection, I wish to emphasize the fact that our country has had a great and glorious past in medical education and medical sciences.

Sushruta, Jivaka Kumarabhacca, and Charaka were famous medical experts who showed the world how to treat diseases and illnesses. At a time when surgeries in England were done primitively, the most complex surgeries were being performed in India by well trained surgeons.

Sushruta is credited with performing advanced surgeries, including plastic and reconstructive surgery. Sushruta was not just a great surgeon, but also a great teacher.

He taught his students surgical skills by making incisions on the skin of fruits. He also taught them how to remove foreign bodies from flesh by demonstrating the extraction of seeds from fruits. His students were known to have practiced on dead animals and on leather bags filled with water, before they performed surgeries on patients.

Sir Charles Bell the anatomist wrote "The Human Hand is so beautifully formed, it has so fine a sensibility, that sensibility governs its motion so correctly, every effort of the will is answered so instantly, if the hand itself were the seat of that will, its actions are powerful, so free and yet so delicate, that it seems to possess a quality instinct in itself and there is no

thought of its complexity as an instrument, or of the relations which make it subservient to the mind. We use it as we draw our breath, unconsciously. Such is the eloquent description of the Hand.

Modern hand surgery began in the West during World War II when the US Army Surgeon General, Major General Norman T. Kirk, who knew that hand injuries in World War I had poor outcomes because there was no formal system to deal with them. Kirk decided to devote special attention to hand reconstruction and requested Dr. Sterling Bunnell to train military surgeons in the management of hand injuries and it was thus that hand surgery became a formal specialty in recent medical history.

Hand surgery incorporates techniques from orthopaedics, plastic surgery, general surgery, neurosurgery, vascular and microvascular surgery and psychiatry.

The Hand surgeons perform a wide variety of operations such as fracture repairs, transfer and repairs of tendons and reconstruction of injuries, rheumatoid deformities and congenital defects. They also perform microsurgical reattachment of amputated limbs, microsurgical reconstruction of soft tissues and bone, nerve reconstruction, and surgery to improve function in paralysed upper limbs.

You are all aware that delivery of modern health care depends on groups of trained professionals and para professionals coming together to form inter-disciplinary teams.

It is only through conferences such as these that ideas get exchanged, experiences get shared and the way for great achievement is prepared. The large number of Orthopedic Surgeons, Plastic Surgeons, General Surgeon and medical practitioners across the globe who are participating in this august meet fills me with delight.

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.”

The patients approaching a doctor come with a feeling of hope for cure and remedy. It is the responsibility of the doctor to ensure that the best of his abilities are put to use when administering treatment so that the patient is physically and psychologically healed.

At today's function some such outstanding medical professionals have been honoured.

1. Dr John Karrupiah one of the first Orthopaedic Surgeons who practised surgery in his field for more than 40 years.

2. Dr. Mohammed Farook another outstanding Orthopaedic Surgeon of Trichy who served the profession well for more than 5 decades.
3. Dr Samson Daniel a great educationist and teacher of Orthopaedic Surgery.
4. Dr. S. Rajasabapathy internationally acclaimed Hand surgeon for his extra-ordinary surgical skill using which he has performed more than 30,000 hand surgeries.
5. Prof. Dr Yoshitaka Hamada an outstanding Hand surgeon from Japan who has pioneered his unique instrumentation and joint replacement techniques and performed more than a lakh operations.

and

6. Dr G. Balakrishnan who has been a torch bearer in hand surgery with several innovations and publications to his credit

have all been conferred with special awards today in recognition of their services.

I appreciate the efforts of the member of Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand, Indian Orthopaedic Association, Orthopaedic Association of South Indian States, Tamil Nadu Orthopaedic Association and Tiruchy Ortho Club for having taken painstaking efforts to organise this Indo-Japan collaborative Hand meet. I am sure that in the years to come

the bonds of friendship for mutual benefit will grow between the two nations and this partnership will emerge stronger with efflux of time. I extend my best wishes and greetings to all of you assembled here. May you all greeted with success in all your endeavours.

Nandri Vanakkam...

Jai Hind....