

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
TAMIL NADU AT THE 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION
IN DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH FOR WORLD DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH
CONGRESS 2019 INDIA ORGANISED BY WORLD DENTAL COUNCIL AND
GRAVITON INTERNATIONAL AT ITC GRAND CHOLA, CHENNAI
ON 31.08.2019 AT 10.30 A.M**

Anaivarukkum Kaalai Vanakkam

Thirumathi. Dr. Charulatha,
President,
World Dental Council

Thiru. P.Prem Kumar,
Director,
Graviton International

Prof. Dr. S.M. Balaji,
Director,
Balaji Dental and Craniofacial Ltd.,

Prof. Dr. Johnson Raja,
Director,
Implantree International Dental

Distinguished Invitees

Ladies & Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to be here at the inaugural ceremony of the 4th International Conference and Exhibition on Dental and Oral Health, being organised by the World Dental Council and the Graviton International. My happiness is doubled on seeing the city of Chennai being the venue for this global meet.

I am informed that the World Dental and Oral Health Congress was started in the year 2017 with a vision to bring together International Dental Leaders from around the globe to discuss key topics related to dental and oral health and hygiene.

Three international conferences have already been held in London. This is the first conference of

the World Dental and Oral Health Congress taking place outside the United Kingdom. The conferences have helped to provide recognition to dentists who have excelled in the profession and also provide an opportunity for dentists to interact and learn about the latest advances in the field.

Tamil Nadu enjoys the pride of having setup the first dental college in the country. 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. Private sector involvement in the establishment of hospitals for medical treatment has been in existence in Tamil Nadu for more than 100 years. Today the State enjoys an

excellent network of hospitals and colleges all over the state making it one of the finest locations for medical diagnosis and treatment in the eastern part of the globe.

According to the WHO the ideal Dentist-population ratio is 1:7500. There are about 300 dental colleges in India and nearly 25,000 graduates pass out every year. But most of them settle down in the urban areas and hence the dentist population ratio in India's urban areas is about 1:10,000 while it is 1:1,50,000 in the rural areas. While conferences such as these will enthuse more youngsters to pursue dentistry as an occupation it is necessary to underline the point

that there needs to be greater spread of doctors to the rural areas.

Several important branches of Dentistry such as Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Prosthodontics, Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics, Periodontics, Pedodontics, Aesthetic Dentistry, Oral Medicine and Radiology, Dental Photography are proposed to be covered at great length during the technical sessions of the conference.

International and National speakers who have been pioneers in the field of Dentistry will be elaborating on these subjects.

High levels of prevalence of

a) Dental Caries

b) Periodontal Disease

and

c) Malocclusion

are important areas of concern which need to be addressed in India.

There also needs to be emphasis on Dental Awareness programs. Maintenance of standardized patient data and creation of Dental Software that are uniformly put to use all over the country. These are simple steps that could help in better care and follow up vis-a-vis patients afflicted with dental problems.

The contributions at the conference are certain to providing valuable inputs on these and many other issues of importance to the medical fraternity.

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. They include

1. Dr. S M Balaji who has been a recipient of the Dr. BC Roy award and is a leading International Consultant for Maxillofacial, Cleft Lip and Palate surgery.
2. Dr. Shovendu Jha is a renowned dentist with enormous experience, having taught nearly 2500 students and having treated nearly 3.5 lakh patients.
3. Dr. Johnson Raja who is known for his pioneering efforts in the field of Zygomatic Implantology aims at reaching out this cutting-edge technology to the masses. He is an

internationally certified mentor for the Extra maxillary approach in Zygomatic implants and has trained more than 200 dental surgeons in this procedure.

4. Dr. Sajid Hussain, who works in the USA and is actively involved in community dental services and oral health awareness education.

The Dental Surgeons and medical practitioners are participating in this august meet. The benefits of conferences such as this are manifold. Besides enabling a meeting of minds and exchange of ideas among the doyens of your profession there is potential for informal brainstorming which I consider more valuable. I am sure that during the course of your

conversations with your fellow colleagues during lunch or tea, you may come up with bright ideas which can change the course of your profession. I call upon the delegates assembled here to be creative and caring and be committed to the welfare of the common people.

I appreciate the efforts of the President, Director and members of World Dental Council and Graviton International for having taken painstaking efforts to organise this 4th International Conference and Exhibition in Dental and Oral Health. With the support and involvement of its diverse membership, the World Dental Council is sure to rise to a position of greater strength in the coming years.

The deliberations at of this conference should be carefully documented and further action pursued so as to lead to logical conclusions. I am sure that in the years to come the bonds of friendship among the doctors from different nations will grow stronger and that their partnership will benefit the field of dentistry greater.

I extend my best wishes and greetings to all of you assembled here. May you all be greeted with success in all your endeavours.

Nandri Vanakkam....

Jai Tamil Nadu....

Jai Hind....