

**Address during Silver Jubilee Year 23rd Convocation of
The Tamilnadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai
29 February 2012**

Good evening to one and all.

- His Excellency, the Governor of Tamil Nadu and Chancellor of The Tamil Nadu Dr.MGR Medical University,
- Dr.Pratab C. Reddy, Chairman, Apollo Group of Hospitals
- Dr.S.Kameswaran, Professor-Emeritus, National Academy of Medical Sciences, New Delhi,
- Dr. Mayilvahanan Natarajan, Vice Chancellor of The Tamil Nadu Dr.MGR Medical University,
- Dear teachers, students and friends;

It gives me great pleasure to address this 23rd Convocation of the Tamilnadu Dr.MGR Medical University in this august evening.

Our Government of Tamil Nadu, under the able guidance of Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.Puratchi Thalaivi AMMA, is totally committed in building healthy people, not only by making quality medicare facilities at the doorstep of every citizen in the remote corner of the State, but also by providing medical facilities of the highest order, keeping pace with rapid technological developments in the field of medicine, our Government of Tamilnadu provides preventive, curative and primitive care to all classes of the society.

In pursuance of the goal to give quality health care to all the people of Tamilnadu especially to the downtrodden section of the society, our Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr.Puratchi Thalaivi AMMA has launched a Comprehensive Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme. This Scheme covers 13.4 million families in our State 1016 Medical and Surgical procedures are covered under this Insurance Scheme. Out of which, 56 Basic Surgical procedures are being done exclusively in the Government hospitals and Government Institutions, by which the infrastructure of the Government hospitals will be improved by the money generated and also we will have clinical materials for our Medical Students.

In this juncture, I have to point out that the Reproductive Child Health is being implemented in Tamilnadu under two components:

One component is improving Child health both in rural and urban areas.

Another component is catering to the infrastructure needs of all the remaining areas in the State.

The broad objectives of this project are:

- i. To improve the health status of women, adolescents and children.
- ii. To improve the quality of health seeking behaviour of women and to increase the quality of service to the maximum.

If we want to achieve a healthy, powerful and prosperous Tamilnadu, the Government and Non Government Organisations, Industries, Policymakers, the Media, City Planners, and Economists all need to work together, along with the health sector, to engineer

the State's growth through health. The Doctors are to play a very significant role in achieving this growth.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has coordinated a massive effort to rid our State from the Polio that has scarred the lives of thousands of children in the State. So it is a matter of satisfaction that we have completed one year without any single new case of polio being reported from anywhere in the State. In this regard, I am happy to inform you that when I met the Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Shri Gulam Nabi Azad in New Delhi on the occasion of "Polio Summit" on 25.02.2012, he has conveyed his appreciation to the Government of Tamilnadu for being one of the premier States in implementing Immunisation Programmes, MMR, IMR and other Family Welfare Schemes.

My dear young graduates, not only as a Pro-chancellor and Minister for Health of our State but also as a Fellow Physician, I appeal to all of you to follow all the Medical ethics and become a successful and ideal Doctor. I also request you to have utmost consideration for the rural population by serving in the rural areas for a certain period of time.

I wish to appreciate the efforts taken by the Vice Chancellor of the Tamilnadu Dr.MGR Medical University and his team for organizing this convocation and I wish all the students good luck and grand successful career.

Thanking you all.