

UBF Diary

July 2024

Spiritual teacher visits UBF



Dr Raghu Ram welcomes BK Shivani didi

We were truly blessed and fortunate to have BK Shivani didi, the respected and famous spiritual mentor, who belongs to the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organisation, visit KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases at KIMS Hospitals on July 25.

Despite her hectic schedule, she went out of her way to directly come to the hospital from the airport and she spent an hour interacting with patients and the staff at the breast centre. She had an aura of peace and calm about her which was comforting and uplifting.



Shivani didi interacts with patients and staff at the Breast Centre



Awareness session: Demystifying breast health



On August 23, Dr Raghu Ram spoke to the spouses of officers in the army and frontline soldiers at the Military College of Electronics and Mechanical Engineering (MCEME) Auditorium in Secunderabad. He spoke on the 'ABCs of Breast Health - What every woman must know', a talk that demystified the common myths linked to various aspects of breast health, backed with evidence-based facts. It was all explained in a simple easy-to-understand format using a PowerPoint presentation.

He also emphasised the importance of early detection of breast cancer and the role of regular annual screening mammograms from the age of 40 to ensure early detection, which is the only way we can save lives from the most common cancer affecting women in our country.

Notably, Dr Raghu Ram delivered the lecture in Hindi and the Q & A session exceeded the duration of his address. After the lecture, he was felicitated by Rachana Varshney, the spouse of Lt Gen Neeraj Varshney, Commandant, MCEME.



Mrs Rachana Varshney felicitating Dr Raghu Ram



Huge gathering at MCEME auditorium

Rare Honour



Dr Raghu Ram being conferred Hon. Fellowship by His Royal Highness Tuanku Muhriz

On August 26, Dr Raghu Ram Pillarisetti, founding director, KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases from Hyderabad, achieved the unique distinction of being conferred the Honorary Fellowship of International Society of Surgery (ISS) by His Royal Highness Tuanku Muhriz, a distinguished member of the royal family and the Chief Ruler of Negri Sembilan, a state in western Malaysia.

Dr Raghu Ram is the youngest ever, first and the only surgeon from the Indian subcontinent in the 122- year-old history of this prestigious organisation to get this highest recognition. This honour was given during the opening ceremony at the 50th Golden Jubilee World Congress of Surgery being hosted by the International Society of Surgery & College of Surgeons of Malaysia at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

More than 1,500 surgeons from over 30 countries participated in this four-day scientific extravaganza from August 26 to August 29, 2024.

The International Society of Surgery

Founded in 1902, the International Society of Surgery is

one of the most renowned surgical organisations and its members include distinguished surgeons from all over the world.

Dr Raghu Ram received this award alongside two other world-renowned surgeons - Prof Ernest Gene Moore from USA and Professor Akira Miyachi from Japan.

Reference: [LINK](#) to world-renowned surgeons who have received Honorary Fellowship of the International Society of Surgery in the past 122 years (1902 –2023)

<https://www.iss-sic.com/honorary-fellow-full-listing>

Rich Tributes

Paying rich tributes to Dr Raghu Ram, Prof Cheng Har, President and Prof Ken Boffard, Secretary General of International Society of Surgery stated in their letter, “We would like to congratulate you on this great honour. The International Society of Surgery presents the prestigious honorary membership to you with the greatest appreciation of your life-long endeavours to significantly improve the art and science of breast surgery in India”.



World-renowned surgeons - Prof Ernest Gene Moore from USA and Professor Akira Miyauchi from Japan alongside Dr Raghu Ram from India. They were conferred the Honorary Fellowship

On receiving the award, Dr Raghu Ram said, "I am deeply grateful and incredibly humbled to accept this high honour conferred by His Royal Highness Tuanku Muhriz. I dedicate this astonishing moment and tremendous recognition to my motherland, my family, and to my patients who have given me the unique privilege to be involved in their care."

"I owe a deep sense of gratitude to my colleagues, friends and the government of India for their extraordinary support. This high honour has well and truly added fire in my belly to make an even greater impact to further improve breast healthcare in my motherland—India (Bharat)."

Link to Honorary Fellowship Ceremony

<https://youtu.be/kuJrILZsn18?si=UOK5JCgYqvPRUyRD>

September 2024



Chief Guest

On September 15, Dr Raghu Ram was the chief guest at the 47th annual conference of Andhra Pradesh Chapter of Association of Surgeons of India (APASICON 2024).

He addressed surgeons and trainees from Andhra Pradesh during the inaugural ceremony of the conference, which was held in Rajahmundry.

October 2024

Busting myths - 'Conversations at The Quorum'

On October 9, Dr Raghu Ram participated in an interactive event, 'Conversations at The Quorum', to discuss on the subject, 'ABCs of Breast Cancer, what every woman must know' in Hyderabad.



Uma Sudhir introducing the guests at the session



Uma Sudhir and Ananda Shankar interacting with a Breast Cancer 'conqueror'

This session with Dr Raghu Ram and Ananda Shankar Jayant, well known classical dancer and breast cancer 'conqueror' was moderated by Uma Sudhir, executive editor (south India) at NDTV.



Uma Sudhir
@umasudhir

I would strongly recommend that both men & women should attend this session at [#TheQuorum](#) Wednesday Oct 9 at 7 pm... Come, listen, ask & get answers; Go back well-informed about what you need to do for yourself and your loved ones [#DemystifyBreastCancer](#) [#BreastCancerAwarenessMonth](#)



Ananda S Jayant  
@anandasjayant

Thankyou [@RRPillarsetti](#) for untiringly continuing to bring awareness to breast cancer and for making me a small part of this journey and to [@umasudhir](#) for moderating this conversation in your inimitable style

The event was aimed at busting myths, spreading hope and courage—it was meant for people who had questions and needed answers about various aspects relating to diagnosis and treatment of Breast Cancer. Later tweeting about the event, Uma Sudhir, wrote in her post that it

was ‘enlightening’ to be in conversation with two Padma Shri awardees—Dr Raghu Ram and Ananda Shankar, and praised the doctor for ‘keeping it simple, clear, busting myths and giving confidence’. While Ananda, she wrote, ‘spoke from the heart sharing her inspirational personal journey’.

September 2024

Telangana Raj Bhavan goes ‘Pink’ for the 5th consecutive year



October is recognised as International Breast Cancer Awareness month the world over.

To commemorate this occasion, for the 5th consecutive year, Telangana Raj Bhavan was illuminated in the colour ‘Pink’ by the Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation.

Telangana Raj Bhavan is the only Raj Bhavan in the country that has been turning pink consistently since 2020 in support of breast cancer awareness. Started during the COVID pandemic year, this unique endeavour undertaken by the Foundation aims to create awareness about the importance of early detection, and equally,



Jishnu Dev Varma appreciating the unique initiatives of the Foundation and displaying the most recent issue of Pink Connexion (August 2024 issue), which featured the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi on the cover page



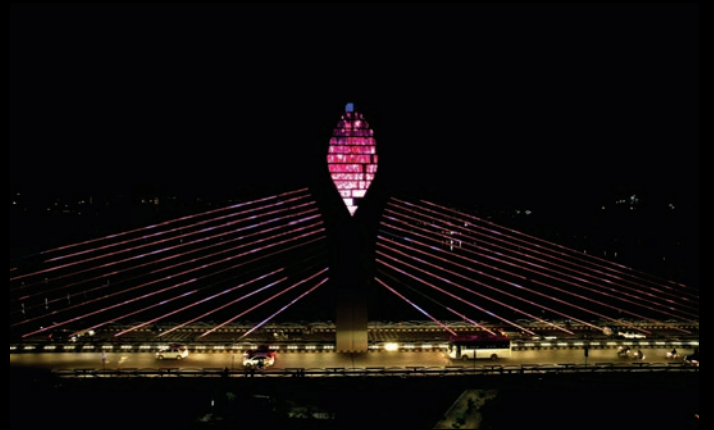
L-R: Seshagiri Rao, Bhavani Shankar, Telangana Governor—Jishnu Dev Varma with Dr Raghuram expressing rock solid support to the Pink Ribbon Campaign

spread the message of hope, courage and determination in the fight against the most common cancer affecting women in India.

Just before the Illumination, Jishnu Dev Varma, governor of Telangana met Dr P Raghuram, founder and CEO of Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation and expressed his condolences on the passing away of Dr Ushalakshmi, the founder chairman and inspiration behind UBF. He paid rich tributes to Dr Raghuram's outstanding efforts

over the past 17 years towards creating the much-needed awareness about the importance of early detection through a number of innovative projects.

Speaking on this occasion, Dr Raghuram, who has been spearheading the Pink Ribbon Campaign said, "Very grateful to Hon'ble Governor for permitting the Foundation to illuminate Raj Bhavan in 'Pink' - it is a powerful way to attract attention and raise awareness about the commonest cancer affecting women in India."



Buddha statue, Charminar, Durgam Cheruvu cable bridge, KIMS Hospitals and THub turned Pink