

UBF Diary

August 2023



A journey of hope from Birpara to Hyderabad

This is one cancer ‘conqueror’ Dr Raghu Ram finds ‘hugely admirable’. He admires her ‘enormous resilience and indomitable spirit’ for travelling a long journey for her follow up visits.

Dr Raghu Ram finds it especially humbling that at the peak of Covid, Kavitha Gupta, who comes from a humble background with limited resources and other challenges, travelled all the way from Birpara (a small village close to the Bhutan border) to Hyderabad, to get her bilateral breast cancer surgery done by him.

And, she travels by train for over 40 hours each way just to be seen by him for the follow-up visits. Dr Raghu Ram says that although he tried to convince her not to travel this far and that he would personally speak to doctors in her region to take care of her, she has stoutly refused.

“It’s been a couple of years since her surgery and my eyes get moist whenever I see her, for the trust and faith she has in me. I am grateful to the divine force and I pray for her good health,” says Dr Raghu Ram.

○ Birpara, West Bengal 735204
○ Hyderabad, Telangana

🚗 40 hr 🚲 39 hr 🚆 1 day 20 hr

40 hr (2,046.7 km)
 via Srinagar - Kanyakumari Hwy

50th Annual Congress of CSAMM, Kuala Lumpur



With Dr Siow Sze Lee, president, College of Surgeons of Malaysia at the Presidential Dinner



With Prof Yip Cheng-Har, president International Society of Surgery



Alongside other distinguished judges at the "Young Investigator award" session



Dr Raghu Ram with Prof. Rowan Parks, president, The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh



Dr Raghu Ram was invited to judge the "Young Investigator Award" session during the 50th annual Congress at the College of Surgeons Academy of Medicine of Malaysia (CSAMM), along with world-renowned distinguished surgeons such as Prof Rowan Parks, president, The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh; Prof Ronan O'Connell, past president, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and editor of the globally famous Bailey & Love's Short Practice of Surgery; and Prof Maria Vesagas, president, Philippine College of Surgeons.

The Congress was held in Kuala Lumpur from August 25 to 27.

Honorary Fellowship conferred



Presentation of Hon. Fellowship Certificate by the president, Prof Nandadeva Samarasekara



Presentation of memento after delivering the guest lecture



With Prof Jayindra Fernando, former president, College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka

Dr P Raghu Ram was formally conferred the Honorary Fellowship Insignia in person by Professor Nandadeva Samarasekara, president, College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka during the inaugural ceremony of their 2023 Annual Scientific Congress on September 14.

In fact, Dr Raghu Ram had been conferred the Honorary Fellowship virtually when Covid was at its peak in November 2020, at their virtual 49th Annual Scientific Congress.

KIMS Hospitals hosts first NOTSS introductory course in India



Dr Raghu Ram in his capacity as convener, International Affairs, The Association of Surgeons of India organised the first-ever NOTSS (Non Technical Skills for Surgeons) introductory course at KIMS Hospitals in Hyderabad, which was held under the auspices of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in partnership with Association of Surgeons of India.

Technical skills by themselves are inadequate to ensure optimal outcome after surgery. It is the non-technical skills

Governor inaugurating the course

that play a significant role in patient safety and well-being of surgical teams, says Dr Raghu Ram.

In an earnest endeavour to demonstrate the Association of Surgeons of India's commitment to patient safety and raise awareness about the importance of this course among the surgical fraternity in India, this first NOTTS introductory course was held on September 17. Telangana governor, Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan graced the event as chief guest.



Miss Clare McNaught, vice-president, RCS Ed addressing the participants



Dr Raghu Ram welcoming the gathering



Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan felicitating Ms Clare McNaught



Governor with KIMS Hospitals Chairman, RCS Ed & ASI Office Bearers

For 15 years, Hyderabad, the only city to turn 'pink'

Hyderabad is the only city in the world to have several of its monuments and buildings turn 'pink' on October 1 to mark the International Breast Cancer awareness month. Admirably, it has been doing so without fail for the past 15 years.

In fact, the city has never missed its date with breast cancer even during the Covid pandemic.

Several iconic monuments and prominent buildings in Hyderabad, the Charminar, Buddha statue, secretariat Buildings, T-Hub, Prasads Imax, Durgam Cheruvu Cable Bridge and KIMS Hospitals have all been illuminated in 'pink' on October 1. This massive effort by Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation is done every year to commemorate the beginning of International Breast Cancer Awareness month in October.





"It's not just permissions – the struggle to pull it off on the ground every year is massive. Yet, it is a chapter of my 'Advocacy campaign' for the past 16 years. Even if this humongous endeavour year on year, touches and saves a few lives, it is well worth my time and effort."

"And, I believe it does somewhere, somehow..."

Dr Raghu Ram, founder, CEO & director, UBF

