

UBF Diary

November 2025

TEDx Youth at HPS Begumpet: Lessons beyond the classroom



Dr Raghu Ram was invited to participate in the first edition of the “TEDx Youth” at his alma mater, The Hyderabad Public School, organised by the students on November 1, 2025. He began by expressing his heartfelt gratitude to his teachers – not merely for lessons from textbooks, but for instilling values that have

guided every step of his journey. Those values, he said, have been his true education.

Through his talk, Dr Raghu Ram reflected on his 18 year-journey of purpose with the Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation – born from his mother’s personal battle with breast cancer and transformed into a nationwide movement for awareness, advocacy, and early detection. He shared how an extraordinary wave of awareness – sparked in the Telugu states and resonating far beyond – ignited a ripple effect across the country, inspiring NGOs and hospitals nationwide to launch similar initiatives and adapt the advocacy model to champion other health causes that deserve equal voice and visibility.

The warmth, applause, and deep connection with the audience served as a powerful reminder that when work is driven by love and purpose, it not only touches hearts but truly transforms lives.

Link to TEDx Presentation:

<https://youtu.be/qjmOomhr5Mg?si=oOliOWbQ6dTRpXuf>

Secunderabad Club turns pink, but it’s not just light on stone



It was a truly special evening on November 8 at the Secunderabad Club, as this historic institution stood shoulder to shoulder with the Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation, to celebrate 18 years of unwavering breast cancer advocacy.

Dr Raghu Ram delivered an engaging talk on “ABCs of Breast Cancer – What Every Woman Must Know,” and it was heartening to see so many club members gather on a Saturday evening in support of early detection and awareness.

The evening was made meaningful by the presence of Ananda Shankar Jayant, Padma Shri awardee, renowned classical dancer and breast cancer conqueror, and Uma Sudhir, executive editor, NDTV. Their deeply moving reflections inspired everyone present.

As the 147-year-old club building glowed pink, it felt profoundly symbolic – a tribute to courage, a salute to conquerors, and a beacon of hope for every woman. This was not just light on stone, but the glow

of collective compassion, awareness, and purpose – carrying forward a mission that began 18 years ago, and continues with even greater resolve.

A Meaningful Interaction: NMC leadership at KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Breast Centre



Prof Abhijat Sheth, chairman, National Medical Commission and president, National Board of Examinations, along with Prof Shiva K Misra, vice-president, National Board of Examinations and past president, Association of Surgeons of India, visited the KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases at KIMS Hospitals, on November 10.

During the visit, they interacted with Vedha Penmetcha, a Fulbright Fellow and a pre-medical student from Cambridge, who is currently working on a research project undertaken by the MD Anderson Cancer Center, in partnership with the Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation and the Breast Centre, KIMS Hospitals.

Prof PV Chalapathi Rao Memorial Awards: A legacy that continues to inspire

The 5th Edition of the Annual Prof PV Chalapathi Rao Memorial Awards at KIMS Hospitals was presented to honour excellence and legacy in the medical field.

The Best Outgoing Trainee Awards for 2025 were presented on November 18 to Dr Poonam Aniket Patil (Obstetrics & Gynaecology) and Dr Naga Bhagyasri Mangam (Endocrinology). Instituted in memory of Prof PV Chalapathi Rao, Dr Raghu Ram's father, these awards have been given for the past five consecutive years.

Dr Raghu Ram expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Dr B Bhaskar Rao, chairman and managing director of KIMS Hospitals, for instituting these awards in 2021, to recognise his father's immense contribution to the institution as director of medical education for nearly two decades.

Here's more about Dr Chalapathi Rao:

Link:

<https://youtu.be/Fs87zEGWsEs?si=bsdE23DIR3Hk-RNw>



From Hyderabad to Glasgow: Dr Raghu Ram makes history at RCPSG!



In an unprecedented milestone, Dr Raghu Ram has been elected to the Governing Council—the apex decision-making body—of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG), one of the world’s oldest and only multi-disciplinary Royal Colleges in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Dr Raghu Ram becomes the first and only practising surgeon from India to be elected as an International Councillor of this 425-year-old prestigious institution, which represents surgeons, physicians, dentists, podiatrists, and travel-medicine specialists across 97 countries worldwide.

The results were announced by Prof Hany Eteiba, president RCPSG, during the Annual General Body Meeting at the College in Glasgow on December 5, 2025. This year’s election also marked a historic first: 27 surgeons from across the world contested for this single position—making it the most competitive election in the 500-plus-year history of all UK Royal Colleges.

Historic mandate

As International Councillor (2025–2028), Dr Raghu Ram will represent RCPSG across all countries outside the UK, promoting professional development and strengthening the College’s global presence.



Speaking on this prestigious global role, Dr Raghu Ram said: “I am profoundly grateful to the electorate – Members and Fellows of RCPSG across the world – for this historic mandate and the trust they have placed in me. I dedicate this honour to my family, my patients, and my motherland, who have shaped my journey and purpose. My mission will be to strengthen professional development and champion the College’s global presence with integrity, inclusivity, and excellence.”

Dr Raghu Ram was also recently conferred Honorary FRCS (Glasgow) – the highest honour bestowed by the College. He holds the unique distinction of being both an FRCS by examination and an Honorary Fellow of the same College.

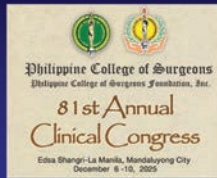
ETV News:

https://youtu.be/cqwQc0o7StE?si=ZOUZQ9_ylt_8LaBW



A singular honour: Dr Raghu Ram delivers Dr Enrique T Ona Oration

Professor Enrique T Ona Oration on Health Policy



Purpose knows no borders was proven when Dr Raghu Ram was honoured to become the first surgeon from South Asia, and only the second from the Asia Pacific region, to deliver the Dr Enrique T Ona Oration on Health Policy, on December 7, 2025. He delivered the oration at the 81st Annual Congress of the Philippine College of Surgeons.

This prestigious one-hour, prime-time named lecture commemorates Dr Enrique T Ona – a pioneering transplant surgeon and former health secretary of the Philippines government.

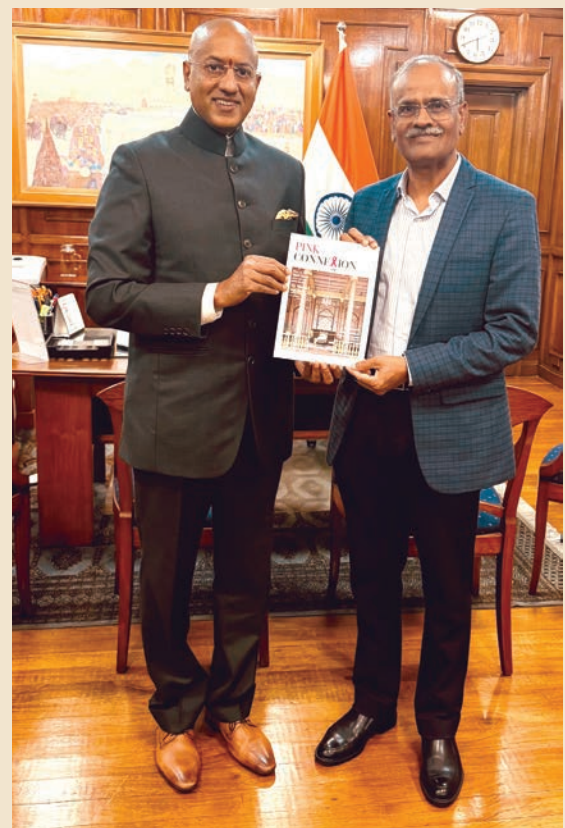
Dr Raghu Ram, who delivered this Oration in the presence of the legend himself (Dr Enrique

Ona), dedicated this singular honour to his parents and his motherland, and outlined the various disruptive initiatives spearheaded over the past 18 years, under the aegis of the Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation and the Breast Centre at KIMS Hospitals, in an earnest endeavour to transform breast cancer care in India.

Indian Ambassador to the Philippines gets a copy of Pink Connexion!

Dr Raghu Ram met Harsh Kumar Jain, Ambassador of India to the Philippines on December 8, 2025 at the Embassy of India, Manila, and presented him with the latest quarterly issue of *Pink Connexion* (Nov '25 – Jan '26), an innovative initiative of the Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation and KIMS–Ushalakshmi Centre for Breast Diseases, KIMS Hospitals.

The Ambassador was deeply impressed and appreciated Dr Raghu Ram for his decision to return to his motherland and for the disruptive initiatives undertaken over the past 18 years to transform breast cancer care in India.



Dr Raghu Ram in Manila: Empowering women, championing early detection



I-WE, a not-for-profit organisation and a unique platform in the Philippines, is dedicated to empowering professional and entrepreneurial women. On December 8, Dr Raghu Ram had the privilege of engaging with the Indian diaspora in Manila, underscoring the importance of early detection of breast cancer and dispelling common myths surrounding the disease.

The Q&A session extended even beyond the talk itself—a testament to the tremendous enthusiasm in the room. Women representing the Telugu, Tamil, Malayalee, Kannadiga, Bengali, and Sindhi associations in the Philippines participated with great interest, including a few courageous breast cancer ‘conquerors’. Their collective slogan, “I’m healthy and full of energy,” resonated powerfully across the hall.

A truly humbling moment for Dr Raghu Ram was when he received a warm pat—as a gesture of appreciation—from the Ambassador of India to the Philippines.

World-renowned Japanese surgeon visits KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases

KIMS Hospitals had the honour of hosting Prof Masaki Mori, one of Japan’s most distinguished surgeons, during his visit to Hyderabad on December 16.

Prof Mori is the vice-president of Tokai University, Provost of the Medical Science College and Dean of Tokai University School of Medicine, Tokyo, and a former president of the Japan Surgical Society.



His keynote address, in which he highlighted global best practices, academic excellence, and innovation in surgical care, was exceptionally well received and left a deep impression on the medical fraternity in Hyderabad.

Prof Mori later visited the KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases, where

he interacted with patients and the clinical team. He paid rich tributes to Dr Raghu Ram for establishing South Asia’s first state-of-the-art comprehensive Breast Centre, describing it as a benchmark in patient-centred, multi-disciplinary breast care.

ASICON 2025: Communication in Surgery – How do we get it right?



Dr Raghu Ram participated in a Communication Skills Workshop held during the 85th annual Conference of ASI (ASICON 2025) in Kolkata on December 18, 2025.

It was conducted under the auspices of The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG), in partnership with the Association of Surgeons of India (ASI).

The workshop focussed on strengthening non-technical skills in surgery, emphasising the critical role of effective communication in reducing errors, improving patient and

team satisfaction, and enhancing clinical efficiency. The session empowered both surgical trainees and consultants with practical strategies to improve communication across the surgical care continuum.

The session was convened by Prof Abhay Rane, registrar, RCPSG, and featured participation and active engagement from Prof Hany Eteiba, president, RCPSG, and Prof John Camilleri-Brennan, vice-president, RCPSG, along with Dr M B V Prasad (Hyderabad), Prof Somashekhar (Bengaluru), Prof Pawanindra Lal (Delhi), and Prof Utpal De (Kolkata).

RCPSG President hosts reception



A reception was hosted by Prof Hany Eteiba, president of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG), in honour of the Fellows and Members of the College, who attended the Association of Surgeons of India (ASICON 2025)'s 85th Annual Conference in Kolkata on December 19.

During the reception, Dr Raghu Ram expressed gratitude to the Fellows and Members of the College across the world for the historic mandate that has made him the first—and only—practising surgeon from India to be elected to the RCPSG's apex Governing Council.

Andrew Fleming, British deputy high commissioner to the East and North Eastern States of India, paid rich tributes to Dr Raghu Ram for his outstanding contributions to surgery and his exemplary role in advancing global academic and professional collaboration.



The Dr PV Chalapathi Rao Memorial Oration



Dr Raghu Ram had the honour of chairing the fifth Dr PV Chalapathi Rao Memorial Oration, held on December 19, 2025, during the 85th Annual Conference of the Association of Surgeons of India (ASICON 2025).

The Oration was delivered by Prof Roy Patankar, a distinguished surgeon and outstanding academician, widely respected for his

clinical excellence, intellectual rigour, and above all, his humane and grounded approach to patient care.

The Oration honours the memory of Dr PV Chalapathi Rao—an eminent surgeon, a revered teacher, a towering mentor, and a father whose values and principles profoundly shaped Dr Raghu Ram's life.

January 2026

10th Intercollegiate Final MRCS Examinations held in Hyderabad



The 10th edition of the Intercollegiate Final MRCS examinations was held in Hyderabad from January 13 to 15, 2026, under the auspices of The Royal College of Surgeons of England.

The examinations were hosted by Dr Raghu Ram, continuing a long-standing collaboration aimed at expanding access to internationally benchmarked surgical assessment in the region. Since 2008, Hyderabad has served as a major international examination centre, enabling more than 2,000 surgical trainees from South Asia and beyond to sit for the Final FRCS and Final MRCS Examinations locally. These examinations were conducted under the auspices of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (2008–2015), and subsequently The Royal College of Surgeons of England (2015–2026).



This sustained initiative reflects a shared commitment to maintaining the highest standards of surgical training and assessment, while improving accessibility and reducing geographical and financial barriers for candidates.

During the Examiners' Dinner, Professor Vishy Mahadevan, convener of the RCS England Examinations, expressed his appreciation to Dr Raghu Ram for his leadership and unwavering, long-standing commitment to the successful conduct of the MRCS examinations in Hyderabad.



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