

UBF Diary

May 2023



Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan @DrTamilisaiGuv

Dr.Raghu Ram Pillarisetti, Founder & Director, Ushalakshmi #BreastCancer Foundation, #Hyderabad called on at Rajbhavan, #Hyderabad and Presented the First Print Copy of the 33rd quarterly issue of PINK CONNEXION Book (May - July 2023) .

PMO India and 9 others

10:25 PM · 27/05/23 from Earth · 2,446 Views

Dr Raghu Ram, founder director of UBF called on Tamilisai Soundararajan, governor of Telangana and Puducherry at the Raj Bhavan and presented the May 2023 edition of Pink Connexion to her. The governor, who tweeted about the visit, features in the cover story of the issue



Dr Raghu Ram was invited by British deputy high commission to meet with Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon (UK minister of state for the Middle East, south Asia and United Nations) on May 30 in Hyderabad. The minister was on a four-day visit to India focusing on strengthening collaboration in areas of science and technology

Chief Guest at the 2023 Business Excellence awards



Mrs Indra Dutt felicitating Dr Raghu Ram



Deepa Venkat honoured with Business Excellence award



Kavita Dutt being felicitated



Standing ovation after Dr Raghu Ram's address



Bharathi Reddy honoured with the Business Excellence award

Dr Raghu Ram was the chief guest at the 2023 edition of the 'Business Excellence Awards' hosted by Andhra Chamber of Commerce in Chennai. Indra Dutt, the longest serving president of this organisation felicitated Dr Raghu Ram for his outstanding service to the nation at the event.

Established in 1928, the Andhra Chamber of Commerce is celebrating 95 eventful years promoting and protecting trade/industry in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and beyond.

Two outstanding women were conferred with "Business Excellence awards" at the event - Deepa Venkat, managing trustee, Swarna Bharat Trust and Bharathi Reddy, managing trustee /CEO, Vijaya group of hospitals. Kavitha Dutt was felicitated on being appointed honorary consul general for Vietnam in Chennai

Dr Raghu Ram received a standing ovation for his address on his journey of 17 years actively involved in promoting breast healthcare in India. Several prominent industry leaders in Tamil Nadu congratulated him - some with tears in their eyes – saying that they had not heard such a moving and heart-warming presentation!

Address to GI surgeons gathering



Dr Raghu Ram was the only non-gastrointestinal surgeon to have been invited to address a gathering of GI Surgeons at a meeting organised by Dr Pravin Suryavanshi at MGM Medical College & Hospital in Aurangabad on June 19, 2023. Dr Raghu Ram spoke on "Communication in Medicine - Have we got it right? How do we get it right?"

High honour: American Surgical Association to bestow an honorary fellowship



Dr Raghu Ram will be conferred with an honorary fellowship by the American Surgical Association during their 144th annual Congress, slated to be held in Washington DC, in April 2024.

Whilst congratulating him, Prof Mary Hawn, secretary - American Surgical Association & Chair, department of surgery at Stanford University said in a letter dated June 14 that this is the 'highest recognition' the ASA can bestow upon a surgical colleague from a foreign country.

Only 99 surgeons have been bestowed with this high honour in 144 years, she added.

Founded in 1880, ASA is the oldest and the most prestigious surgical organisation in America. Its members include the nation's most prominent surgeons from the country's leading academic medical institutions, many of whom are Chairs of the departments of surgery at these institutions.



AMERICAN SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

June 14, 2023

Raghu Ram Pillarisetti, OBE, MBBS, MS
KIMS-USHALAKSHMI Centre for Breast Diseases
KIMS Hospitals, Minister Road
Secunderabad 500 003 India

Email: p.raghuram@hotmail.com

Dear Professor Pillarisetti:

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the Council of the American Surgical Association (ASA) has unanimously voted to elect you to Honorary Fellowship. This is the highest recognition that the ASA can bestow upon a surgical colleague from a foreign country. At present, there are 99 Honorary Fellows from throughout the world. Dr. Steven C. Stain joins me and the membership in sending you our congratulations. A brief history of the Association is available on the ASA website.

American Surgical Association

The oldest surgical association in the United States
Established in 1880

Mission Statement

As a premier academic surgical society, the American Surgical Association strives for excellence and leadership in science, education, and patient care while promoting diversity, integrity, and innovation.

History

The American Surgical Association was founded in 1880 and is the nation's oldest and most prestigious surgical organization. Its members include the nation's most prominent surgeons from the country's leading academic medical institutions, many of whom are Chairs of the Departments of Surgery at these institutions. Membership also includes leading surgeons from around the world, making it much more than an American association.



Taking breast health issues to college campuses



Dr Raghu Ram delivering his presentation



Governor addressing the gathering

Dr Raghu Ram was invited by Tamilisai Soundararajan, governor of Telangana and Puducherry, to attend a meeting held on June 26 at the Raj Bhavan, with the vice-chancellors of all the universities in Telangana.

What was important about this interaction is that after Dr Raghu Ram outlined the importance of early detection of breast cancer, the governor then requested the vice-chancellors to arrange 'Breast Health' awareness sessions in their respective university campuses.

The aim is to demystify the common myths around breast cancer and highlight the evidence-based facts linked to different breast health issues. All of which will be explained in a simple, easy-to-understand format. The ultimate goal is then for these 'empowered students' in colleges to become ambassadors of breast cancer awareness campaigns and spread the message of 'early detection' to their mothers, grandmothers, aunts, friends and the community at large.

A first in the Telugu States

Mike McKirdy, president, The Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Glasgow (RCPSG) accepted Dr Raghu Ram's invitation to visit Hyderabad. This is the first time the college's president was visiting the Telugu states in their over 400-year-old history.

During his visit, McKirdy addressed consultants and trainees across all specialties at KIMS Hospitals, NIMS & Basavatarakam Indo American Cancer Centre.

In his role as International Advisor for RCPSG, Dr Raghu Ram has been providing strategic guidance to the college, and equally, serving as a bridge to facilitate trainees and consultants across medical and surgical specialties in India to pursue their goals in the UK.

Founded in 1599, RCPSG is the only multi-disciplinary Royal College in the British Isles that represents a diverse community of surgeons, physicians, dentists from across 97 countries around the world.



Dr Bhaskar Rao, CMD KIMS Hospitals felicitating Mike McKirdy



Dr Raghu Ram with Dr Karunakar Reddy, Vice Chancellor, KNR University of Health Sciences and Mike McKirdy



Mike McKirdy and his spouse, Dr Anne Marie with Dr Raghu Ram's family



Mike McKirdy addressing the gathering at KIMS Hospitals

Tribute: Dr Kotha Ushalakshmi



Dr Kotha Ushalakshmi turned 90 on July 21. She has successfully completed 90 positively eventful years with utmost commitment to her Family, extraordinary dedication to her Profession and has served as a major inspiration to a one of its kind Breast Cancer advocacy Campaign in Telangana & Andhra Pradesh spearheaded by a Foundation, which bears her name.

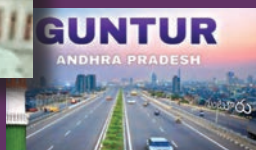
The eventful journey of this well-known gynaecologist in the Telugu states, is chronicled in a short film, *The Indomitable Dr Kotha Ushalakshmi @ 90*. Her tryst with breast cancer transformed her son, Dr Raghu Ram's life, who has committed himself for a lifetime to improve the delivery of breast healthcare in India.

Truly, the greatest legacy that anyone can leave behind is to positively impact the lives of others'. Her glorious life well and truly epitomizes this statement.

A glimpse into her journey thus far can be found on this YouTube link given below:

 <https://youtu.be/oW8QgSP7Zx0>

Born 1933



MBBS and MD, DGO



Andhra Medical College, Visakhapatnam



Defied parent's wishes and married her senior in Medical College



Served as Professor of Obstetrics & Gynaecology in undivided Andhra Pradesh for over a decade...
One of the most sought-after gynaecologists of her generation...

2002 - Everyone has a Story



Her 'big' story began when she was diagnosed with Breast Cancer

She fought the disease with courage & determination



2007



Son and daughter-in-law leave lucrative career opportunities in the UK to relocate to Bharat to take care of Amma



2007 - 2023



Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation, Hyderabad, India

Creating awareness
Reaching out to the Community
Supporting breast cancer 'Conquerors'

Empowering Women...
Impacting Lives...



KIMS Hospitals has honoured Dr Ushalakshmi

South Asia's first purpose built comprehensive Breast Centre

Bringing about a revolutionary change in the way 'Breast Health Centre' is understood in the Indian subcontinent

The Association of Breast Surgeons of India (ABSI), the 'voice' that represents surgeons practising breast surgery in India has instituted an annual **Dr Ushalakshmi Oration** to honour her extraordinary contribution to breast cancer advocacy

At ABSICON 2023 - Ahmedabad

Harmala Gupta delivers second edition of 'Dr Ushalakshmi Oration'

Dr Raghu Ram presents a 'surgeon-friendly' technique to address screen detected breast cancers



**Insertion of guide wire for impalpable lesions -
is it a surgeon's domain?**

Harmala Gupta, a cancer conqueror delivered the second edition of the Dr Ushalakshmi Oration during ABSICON 2023. She spoke about her journey, her fight against cancer and the pioneering cancer support services that she has been spearheading in India, under the auspices of India's first cancer support group that she had established in 1990.

Meanwhile, Dr Raghu Ram shared his experience of a 'surgeon-friendly' technique of inserting guide wire for screen detected impalpable breast cancers/impalpable indeterminate breast lesions at the 11th annual Congress of The Association of Breast Surgeons of India (ABSI). The novel technique involves surgeon inserting the guide wire which has numerous advantages, as opposed to the long established tradition of radiologist undertaking this procedure.

He however underscored the importance of surgeon and radiologist working seamlessly as a team to precisely identify the impalpable lesion prior to surgery and ensuring completeness of excision after surgery. This talk generated keen interest, discussion and appreciation..

He also presented the audited accounts of the landmark 10th annual Congress of ABSI that he hosted in Hyderabad in 2022. An amount of Rs 26 lakhs was contributed to the parent body, ABSI, which is incidentally the highest-ever contribution in its 11-year history.



Harmala Gupta with ABSI principal office bearers and Dr Raghu Ram