

'Focus of research should be on TB and malaria'

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With India still predominantly being a generic drugs producing country, the focus should be on innovation, research and development especially on diseases of relevance to the Indian context such as tuberculosis, HIV and malaria, S. Eswara Reddy, Drugs Controller General of India, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said.

Delivering the address at the 29th convocation of Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (SRIHER) on Monday, he said, "India has been recognised as the world's pharmacy, the biggest supplier of high quality, low priced generic medicines and vaccines that form the backbone of affordable care throughout the developing world. It has been our endeavour to promote generic drugs so as to make the



S. Eswara Reddy giving away a gold medal to a student on Monday. • B.VELANKANNI RAJ

medicines more affordable."

One of the prime objectives of the regulator, he said was to ensure safety of medicines marketed in the country.

P. V. Vijayaraghavan, Vice-Chancellor of SRIHER, spoke.

Gold medals were awarded to 22 students, while degrees were distributed to 452 graduates including Ph.D, super specialties, postgraduates and MBBS, a press release said. V.R. Venkataachalam, chancellor of the university, was present.