

Centre to launch massive COVID vaccination programme: Harsh Vardhan

Chancellor V.R.Venkataachalam presents medals, degree certificates to students

Chennai, Jan 5:
 'The union government is taking up the vaccination programme against covid19 pandemic in a big way' said Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for health, family welfare, science, technology and earth sciences while addressing the virtual convocation of Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research.

The centre he said, "has initiated a series of actions to prevent the spread. The Prime Minister himself interacted with the Chief Ministers of all states and union territories and all stake holders to regularly understand issues and collaborate with them for effective covid management".

"To ensure accessibility of quality treatment for both covid and non covid health issues in far-flung areas, telemedicine has been promoted in a big way and 'eSanjeevani' a web based comprehensive telemedicine solution is being



Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan addressed the virtual Convocation of Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research. Photo shows Mr. V.R. Venkataachalam, Chancellor presenting Ph.D degree to V. Ponraj in the faculty of Biomedical Sciences and Technology.

utilised in 23 states with over 11 lakh teleconsultations held on this platform till date. To improve the nation's health the world's largest health insurance scheme Ayushman Bharat has been launched to create 1,50,000 health and wellness centres by upgrading sub health centres and rural and urban primary health centres. Around 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families have been identified for a health cover of five lakh rupees per family per

year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation" Dr. Harsh Vardhan said. In the last 1½ years since Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi began his second term 75 district hospitals have been converted into Medical Colleges, 14 of them in Tamil Nadu alone. In the last six years, over 157 such district hospitals are in various stages of conversion into Medical Colleges. Also the number of All India Institute of

Medical Sciences have increased from 6 to 22 today, he said.

Minister complimented SRIHER for providing a separate block for covid patients and for conducting ICMR vaccine trials and serving as a testing centre since April 2020.

The Chancellor V.R.Venkataachalam conferred the degrees and along with Pro Chancellor Mr.R.V.Sengutuvan and Vice Chancellor Dr.P.V.Vijayaraghavan presented 94 gold medals to meritorious students and distributed certificates to 1266 students including in Ph.D., super specialities, post graduate and under graduate disciplines.

Dr.S.P.Thyagarajan, Dean Research, Dr.Mahesh Vakamudi, Dean of Faculties, Dr.Jothi Malar Controller of Examinations and Mr.V.Swaminathan, Registrar were among those who participated in the convocation.