

Health and education are foundations of a good society: Azim Premji

63,982 candidates awarded certificates at the 27th convocation of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences

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THE HINDU BUREAU



Azim Premji, chairman of Azim Premji Foundation and founder-chairman of Wipro Ltd., delivering the address at the 27th annual convocation of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences in Bengaluru on Tuesday. | Photo Credit: K. MURALI KUMAR



Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, founder-chairman of Wipro Ltd. Azim Premji, RGUHS Vice-Chancellor Bhagavan B.C., Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil, conferring honorary doctorates on Dr. Hombhe Gowda Sharat Chandra, Dr. Girish Rao, and Dr. G.T. Subhas during RHUGS convocation in Bengaluru on Tuesday. | Photo Credit: K. MURALI KUMAR

Health and education are the foundations of a good society and a country. These are fields of service, not business, Azim Premji, chairman of Azim Premji Foundation and founder-chairman of Wipro Ltd., has said.

Delivering the convocation address at the 27th annual convocation of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) on Tuesday, he said: “A healthy and educated population is the foundation of a vibrant society and nation. But the effort to keep the population healthy and educated is the real service. It cannot be treated as a business. Every human being in India deserves the best possible health and education, regardless of what they can pay. Without this, we cannot build a strong nation.”



“We must do everything in our power to strengthen the public health system. Public health system, preventive and community health services in primary care may not seem the most exciting to young professionals, but they are far more critical to a population’s health than the most sophisticated superspeciality care, we must invest in these areas, both as a country and as individuals”

Azim Premji

Chairman of Azim Premji Foundation and founder-chairman of Wipro Ltd

Mr. Premji advised young professionals to focus on strengthening the public health system. “We must do everything in our power to strengthen the public health system. Public health system, preventive and community health services in primary care may not seem the most exciting to young professionals, but they are far more critical to a population’s health than the most sophisticated superspeciality care, we must invest in these areas, both as a country and as individuals,” he advised.

Sharan Prakash Patil, Minister for Medical Education, exhorted medical graduates to work with the government. “You should aspire to work with the government, even if you get a lucrative offer from corporate hospitals. Your knowledge and skills must be directed towards achieving equitable healthcare. Every individual deserves compassionate care, regardless of income, location, gender or social status,” Dr. Patil said.

He emphasised that a sensitive mind and a strong ethical framework were the foundations of effective medical care. “In this fast-evolving age of technology and advanced medicine, never forget the values of compassion, listening, and cultural sensitivity. These must accompany your professionalism,” he advised.

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot, Chancellor of the university, advised students to upgrade their knowledge regularly. “In the era of artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics, even medical professionals must keep learning and upgrading themselves,” he said.

A total of 63,982 candidates, including 54,517 candidates in undergraduate courses, 8,588 in postgraduate courses, 82 in Ph.D, 265 in superspeciality courses, six in postgraduate diploma, 515 in fellowships, nine in certificate courses, were awarded certificates. Also, 109 gold medals and cash prizes were awarded to students.

Eminent genetics and evolution specialist Hombe Gowda Sharat Chandra, oral and maxillofacial surgeon Girish Rao, and neurologist G.T. Subhas were conferred with honorary doctorate degrees.

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