

Speech of His Excellency Shri K.Sankaranarayanan, the Governor of Jharkhand on the occasion of the inauguration of Curie-Abdur Razzaque Ansari Cancer Institute at Irba, Ranchi on 10th Sept '09.

Hon'ble Vice President Shri M.Hamid Ansari, Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Subodh Kant Sahai, Advisors to Governor Shri T.P.Sinha and Shri Wilfred Lakra, Chief Secretary, Director General of Police, Dr.Ajai Kumar, Chairman, Health Care Global Enterprises, Bangalore, Mr. S.A.Ansari, Managing Director SAC, Ranchi, other dignitaries on and off the dias, Doctors, Media representatives, Ladies & Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to be present for the inauguration of Curie-Abdur Razzaque Ansari Cancer Institute at Irba, Ranchi. I would, on this occasion, like to pay my tributes to the vision, reforming zeal and tireless efforts of Late Abdur Razzaque Ansari, in whose memory this institute as well as Abdur Razzaque Memorial Weavers Hospital is dedicated. It is indeed an inspiring saga of dedication, hardwork and entrepreneurship that enabled a weavers cooperative movement to make significant difference to the health landscape of the state.

Jharkhand is one of the under developed states in the country with regard to the health status of the people and provision of health services. Poverty, poor infrastructure and high morbidity are some of the factors responsible for this scenario. Poverty associated communicable diseases like tuberculosis and malaria, along with maternal mortality and morbidity comprise a major portion of the disease burden of the state. In this context the initiative of the Weavers Community led by the Ansari

brothers in bringing world class health care facilities for the masses of Jharkhand & nearby states is indeed praiseworthy. Their latest offering the Curie-Abdur Razzaque Ansari Cancer Institute is a welcome & timely addition to the health services available in Jharkhand.

Cancer incidence in India has doubled over the last 3 decades. An estimated 3 million patients are undergoing treatment for cancer in the country today; however there is acute paucity of high quality cancer care outside the metropolitan cities. The scenario in Jharkhand uptill now has been extremely bleak since there was no centre available with linear accelerators for proper cure of cancer patients. Traditionally cancer was considered a terminal ailment; however, over the past few decades' technology driven improvements in diagnosis and treatment of cancer have converted it into a chronic disease rather than a terminal condition. This necessitates the availability of regional cancer centres with standardized, high quality radiation and medical oncology capabilities so that cancer patients and their families are not burdened by considerations of prohibitive cost, distance or other logistics.

In this backdrop the establishment of Curie Ansari Cancer Institute will be a boon for cancer patients in Jharkhand as well as in adjoining states. I congratulate the Health Care Global Enterprises Ltd Bangalore led by Dr. Ajai Kumar who have pioneered this model of providing state of art cancer treatment centre close to doorsteps and SAC Hospital Management & Consultancy Services led by Shri S.A. Ansari for their partnership which has resulted in this cancer institute. I hope that this institute will, in times to come, set up new benchmarks in cancer treatment and become the pride of east India.

Thank you.