

# The Pioneer

## New AIIMS institutions increased access to quality healthcare: Radhakrishnan

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The Vice President CP Radhakrishnan has said that the establishment of new All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) across the country over the last decade has strengthened access to quality healthcare and medical education in the country. He said that good governance lies in understanding and serving the needs of the people. The VP was addressing the sixth convocation ceremony of AIIMS Rishikesh on Thursday.

Highlighting the spiritual and cultural significance of Rishikesh as a global centre of reflection and healing, and a gateway to the Himalayas, the VP noted that such a setting adds deeper meaning to the solemnity of the convocation ceremony.

He said that India demonstrated resilience, innovation and commitment under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Covid-19 pandemic. He highlighted India's large-scale vaccination drive, noting that over 140 crore citizens received free vaccines, ensuring equitable access to healthcare. Mentioning the Vaccine Maitri initiative, Radhakrishnan said that vaccines were supplied to over 100 countries under the initiative which reinforced India's role as a compassionate and responsible global partner.

Praising AIIMS Rishikesh, he said the institute stands as a model of excellence by combining

clinical care, academic strength, research, innovation and social commitment. He particularly appreciated its telemedicine initiatives, noting that healthcare must go beyond hospital campuses to reach remote and underserved populations. The VP also lauded innovative healthcare interventions such as Helicopter Emergency

society. Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that the medical field is not just a profession, but the highest medium of service to humanity, which should be performed with devotion, sensitivity and compassion. He said AIIMS Rishikesh, established by former Union Minister Atal Bihari



Medical Services and the use of drones for delivering medicines during the Char Dham Yatra and in remote areas. He said that healthcare is a public trust and that the medical professionals play a vital role in nation-building. He urged the young graduates and post graduates to contribute through preventive care, rural outreach, research and innovation.

The governor lieutenant general (retd) Gurmit Singh said that the healthcare sector is rapidly changing with artificial intelligence and modern research methods. He said that access to health services in the mountainous regions of Uttarakhand remains challenging and the young doctors should transform these challenges into opportunities, providing services in remote areas and instilling trust in

payee, has today established itself as a life-saving institution for the state. It offers state-of-the-art facilities such as cancer treatment, neurosurgery, robotic surgery and joint replacement.

The CM welcomed and felicitated Radhakrishnan on behalf of the people of Uttarakhand.

Addressing the graduating doctors, Union Minister of State for Health, Anupriya Patel said the medical profession is not just a career, but the highest form of service to humanity. Haridwar and former CM Triveni Singh Rawat, Rajya Sabha MP Nareish Bansal Mahendra Bhatt, AIIMS Rishikesh chairman Manoj Bahadur, executive director Dr Meenu Singh and others attended the ceremony.

# The Hawk

## Vice President Addresses 6th Convocation Ceremony Of AIIMS Rishikesh

- Vice President praises AIIMS expansion, says healthcare must reach the last mile
- Healthcare must go beyond hospitals: Vice-President lauds telemedicine and innovation at AIIMS Rishikesh
- Vice President highlights India's equitable COVID response, lauds Vaccine Maitri initiative
- Vice President praises CM Pushkar Singh Dhami's leadership in strengthening infrastructure and services

Rishikesh (The Hawk): The Vice President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, addressed the 6th Convocation Ceremony of All India Institute of Medical Sciences Rishikesh, Uttarakhand today, describing it as a defining moment of transition, reflection, and responsibility for graduating students.

Highlighting the spiritual and cultural significance of Rishikesh as a global centre of reflection and healing, and a gateway to the Himalayas, the Vice President noted that such a setting adds deeper meaning to the solemnity of the convocation ceremony.

Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan said that a convocation marks not only the culmination of years of disciplined effort and sacrifice but also the beginning of a greater responsibility towards society and the nation. He urged the graduates to embrace their professional duties with dedication and a sense of purpose.

Reflecting on the challenges posed by the COVID-



19 pandemic, the Vice President stated that India demonstrated resilience, innovation, and commitment under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He highlighted India's large-scale vaccination drive, noting that over 140 crore citizens received free vaccines, ensuring equitable access to healthcare. He further emphasized that Indian scientists developed vaccines not for profit, but for the welfare of humanity.

The Vice President also underlined India's global responsibility through its Vaccine Maitri initiative, under which vaccines were supplied to over 100 countries. He said this initiative reflected the spirit of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" and reinforced India's role as a compassionate and responsible global partner.

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Praising AIIMS Rishikesh, he said the institute stands as a model of excellence by combining clinical care, academic strength, research, innovation, and social commitment. He particularly appreciated its telemedicine initiatives, noting that healthcare must go beyond hospital campuses to reach remote and underserved populations. The Vice President also lauded innovative healthcare interventions such as Helicopter Emergency Medical Services and the use of drones for delivering medicines during the Char Dham Yatra and in remote areas, describing these as effective solutions to longstanding challenges in healthcare delivery.

The Vice President highlighted the rapid development of infrastructure in the region, including the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway. He commended the efforts of the Government of Uttarakhand

under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami for promoting inclusive development, strengthening infrastructure, and improving healthcare delivery.

Shri C.P. Radhakrishnan emphasized that healthcare is a public trust and that medical professionals play a vital role in nation-building. He urged them to contribute through preventive care, rural outreach, research, and innovation, and to remain guided by the values of empathy, integrity, and service.

Those present on the occasion included the Governor of Uttarakhand, Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh (Retd.), Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami; Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Smt. Anupriya Patel; President, AIIMS Rishikesh, Prof. Raj Bahadur; Dean (Academic), Prof. Saurabh; Executive Director, AIIMS Rishikesh, Prof. Meenu Singh; along with faculty members, students, and other dignitaries.

## Healthcare must go beyond hospitals ...

-: Chief Guest :-  
**Shri C P Radhakrishnan**  
 Vice President, India

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Highlighting the expansion of healthcare infrastructure, CP Radhakrishnan noted that the establishment of new AIIMS institutions across the country over the last decade has strengthened access to quality healthcare and medical education, especially in underserved regions. He remarked that good governance lies in understanding and serving the needs of the people.

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## Times of India

# VP highlights India's global role during Covid at AIIMS-R

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**Rishikesh:** Vice president CP Radhakrishnan on Thursday highlighted India's role as a global partner during the Covid-19 pandemic while addressing the sixth convocation of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Rishikesh, where he was the chief guest. "India's response to the pandemic reflected not only domestic resilience but also a commitment to global solidarity, as India extended medical support to other nations during the crisis," he said.

Total 386 students graduated at the ceremony, where 23 medals were awarded across courses, including 13 gold, five silver and five bronze.

CM Pushkar Singh Dhami lauded AIIMS Rishikesh for extending healthcare services to remote areas using modern techniques and artificial intelligence.

Executive director and CEO of AIIMS Rishikesh, Dr Meenu Singh, said, "The institute's 280-bed satellite centre in US Nagar is expected to become operational in August this year."

Union minister of state for health and family welfare Anupriya Patel, urged the graduating doctors to remain committed to professional ethics despite challenges. Uttarakhand governor Lt Gen Gurmit Singh (retd) said, "Young doctors play a crucial role in building a healthy nation and should work with that sense of responsibility."