

Prasanna School of Public Health



Agenda

<i>Welcome</i>	Director, PSPH	10.30 am to 10.35 am
<i>Invocation</i>	Dr Arathi Rao	10.35 am to 10.40 am
Lighting of the lamp	All dignitaries	10.40 am to 10.43 am
Opening remarks	Prof Helmut Brand Director, PSPH	10.43 am to 10.48 am
Address by the Vice Chancellor	Dr H Vinod Bhat Vice Chancellor, MAHE, Manipal	10.48 am to 10.53 am
Address by the Primary benefactor	Mr D A Prasanna Founder Manipal Acunova	10.53 am to 11.00 am
Unveiling of Plaque	Prof M S Valiathan National Research Professor	11.00 am to 11.05 am
Address by Chief Guest	Prof M S Valiathan National Research Professor	11.05 am to 11.15 am
Presidential address	Dr H S Ballal Pro Chancellor, MAHE, Manipal	11.15 am to 11.20 am
Keynote address Beyond the syndrome: Paradigm shift in Infectious diseases surveillance in India	Dr Arun Kumar Prof and Head, MCVR	11.20 am to 12.00 pm
Discussion		12.00 pm to 12.15 pm
Vote of thanks	Director, PSPH	12.15 pm

Message from the MD and CEO of the Manipal Education and Medical group

Dr Ranjan Pai

The Manipal Education and Medical Group's (MEMG) vision and ethos is focused around human development. Since its origins in the early 1950s, MEMG institutions have provided education and health care to the people of our country. The state of public health services in a country directly influences life expectancy and productivity and is therefore closely linked to its development index. It therefore follows that if a nation must progress, a focus on public health is imperative. Government policy must increasingly be directed towards creating, encouraging and supporting an eco-system in which public health occupies pride of place. In such a scenario, academic institutions will have a critical role to play in providing the thought, research and skills essential to build a robust public health system.

Our vision is to develop the Prasanna School of Public Health (PSPH) in the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) into an institution that will support the Government's efforts, collaborate and cooperate with other institutions across the world and become a think tank of international repute. Today, the essential bricks of this edifice - of research, students and academic units, have already been laid, with the various departments under its umbrella making significant contributions in their respective fields. I expect the PSPH to grow from strength to strength and become a centre of excellence through quality research and academic work. Towards this end, our group looks forward to providing all possible support to the Prasanna School of Public Health.



Message from the Primary Benefactor

Mr D A Prasanna

The improvement in health indicators in India over the last 50 years is lesser than that of several other developing nations. India could have reaped a demographic dividend, having as it does, the largest share of the world population in the productive age group. But the economic benefits of this demographic dividend cannot materialize if the health Indicators of its population are not satisfactory. Among the factors responsible for this are the lack of appropriate health policies and the lack of effective public health professionals deployed in positions impacting public health outcomes.

The health indicators in the geographies covered by MAHE medical colleges in Manipal and Mangalore, which are on par with the health indicators in the heart of New York in the United States, must give us confidence that improvement in public health at micro levels is feasible in India. Progress made on health indicators in Bangladesh and in the eradication of malaria in Sri Lanka demonstrate the effectiveness of good public health administration. The gaining of new insights into the zoonotic disease KFD (Kyasanur Forest Disease) in Virology research carried out in Manipal gives us confidence in the possibility of more such likely breakthroughs in the management of such less understood epidemics.

With the establishment of the PSPH at Manipal University, we aspire to develop capability and capacity in the management and research of public health, with the aim of improving health indicators in India and Asia over the next few decades. On the occasion of the dedication of the School of Public Health, I wish the school all success in the years ahead.



Message from the Pro Chancellor of the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE)

Dr H S Ballal

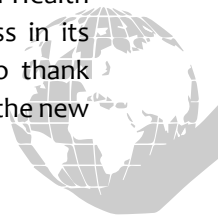
The Department of Public Health, MAHE, Manipal was started in the year 2009. The department offers graduate programs in the area of Public Health, Social Work and Hospital Administration. The Master of Public Health Program offers specializations in Epidemiology; Maternal and Child Health; Environment and Occupational Health; Global Health and Health Policy. In addition it offers a certificate program in Bio Security. The program has a fine blend of blend of theoretical and experiential learning.

With this dynamic background and the opportunity to scale up, the Department of Public Health and its allied areas have been broadened and integrated into the new Prasanna School of Public Health (PSPH), beginning the forthcoming academic year. This expanded school brings into its ambit the department of Statistics as a complement to the existing curriculum and offering a graduate program in Biostatistics. The program also offers certifications in biostatistics, epidemiology and research methodology. Additionally, this department offers doctoral programs in collaboration with the industry.

The new PSPH, while building capacity in academics, research and innovation, will thus serve to integrate the following unique Centres of excellence in:

- Health Literacy
- Clinical Epidemiology
- Community Oncology
- Public Health Evidence
- Health, Applied Research and Technology
- Vaccine studies and
- Infectious diseases

The school will also continue to emphasize on capacity building and competency in areas of Health Economics, Health Policy and Health Care Service Delivery. While wishing the new school all success in its endeavours, I would especially like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Prasanna whose generous support has made the formation of the new School possible.



Message from the Vice Chancellor of the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE)

Dr H Vinod Bhat

India, with all its soft power and technological advances, is woefully short of Public Health initiatives aimed at improving living conditions and state of healthy of its teeming population. While access, illiteracy and poverty are impediments to utilization of health services; misplaced priorities, maldistribution of resources and poorly implemented programmes are systemic flaws that come in the way of “Universal Healthcare”.

Prasanna School of Public Health (PSPH) came about after much deliberation and debate, with a singular goal of training and educating a special cadre of professionals to profess, practice and research the basic tenets of public health as relevant to India. Generously endowed by Mr D A Prasanna, assisted by an eminent Council of International Advisors and ably led by Professor Helmut Brand, this school is mandated to become one of the best in Asia- Pacific region. I am pleased to see the achievements and accomplishments since its inception, in collaborative field research and publications. Standalone Centres established in the University such as Public Health Evidence South Asia, Department of Statistics, Centre for Community Oncology, Clinical Epidemiology Unit, Centre for Vaccine Studies, Centre for Community Oncology and Manipal McGill Centre for Infectious Diseases have now been made parts of PSPH. The next two years will witness some more existing Centres brought under PSPH, even as we create de novo Centres and Departments in the School.

Given the eminence of MAHE, I am confident that PSPH will make a difference to Public Health in India through its research, policy papers and advocacy.



Message from the founding Director of the Prasanna School of Public Health

Prof Helmut Brand

India is changing rapidly. Technological and social innovations are being developed and implemented faster than ever before, all of them influencing the health status of the population directly or indirectly. How do we cope with these transformations in Public Health capacity building, education, research and Health Policy making? This is the challenge that the new Prasanna School of Public Health (PSPH) at Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) is confronted with. It will do so by looking ahead: to the consequences a “Digital Health Society” will bring. To the influence of demographic change and automation. By bridging knowledge from basic sciences like biomedical research to applied evidence based action in health policy. It will do so by analyzing the successes and failures of states and continents that have already experienced demographic transitions and by trying to determine what we can learn from these natural experiments. It will do so by comparing India with similar countries like the Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS). And it will do so by working closely with industry and policy makers. We will develop and test new devices and solutions for urgent societal needs and help to bring them to the market. We will start a new policy dialogue with decision makers in healthcare by providing and discussing with them the necessary evidence on which they can make their decisions.

The existing research Centres of the PSPH already work on this - but there will be more Centres needed to fulfill this goal. Therefore,



the PSPH will grow further by incorporating existing structures like the Department of Virus Research and by creating new Centres like in Demography and Regulatory Affairs.

In education, existing courses will be developed further and new ones like a Master in Vaccinology will be introduced to fulfil societal needs. And the established Public Health Trias of Assessment, Policy Development and Assurance will guide us through this process.



Study programmes at the Prasanna School of Public Health

Capacity building of the Public Health work force is essential for the improvement of the health status of a nation. The Prasanna School of Public Health (PSPH) plays an active and innovative role in this by offering different Master Programmes that train students for leading positions in the fields of public health, hospital administration, social work and statistics.

Next to the **Master of Public Health (MPH)** with its different specializations in Epidemiology, Maternal & Child Health, Environment and Occupational Health, Global Health and Health Policy there are three more Master Programmes run by the Department of Public Health, that cover important areas of Public Health.

As health service delivery undergoes a metamorphosis over the coming years due to demographic change, new technologies and social innovations, the **Master of Hospital administration (MHA)** will continue to train aspiring administrators who will live and breathe the hospital experience in a multi-disciplinary academic environment in a University that is constantly scaling greater heights.

The **Master of Social Work Programme (MSW)** aims to develop a cadre of skilled and competent professional social workers to promote the well-being and empowerment of people and bring about a positive change in society. Specializations are in the fields of Community Organisation and Development, Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations, and Medical and Social work.

The **Master of Science in Biostatistics** offers a specialization in the core Public Health areas of Data management and analysis and Epidemiology. In the upcoming era of Big Data and Artificial Intelligence these will become important tools for Public Health. The Master is offered



by the Department of Statistics which is a central facility supporting the statistical teaching, training and consultation services across disciplines in the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE).

All Master programmes focus on international collaborations and offer unique placement opportunities for the students.

To improve international visibility and reputation the MPH is in the process of European accreditation by the Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation (APHEA).

In the near future PSPH will offer a Master in Vaccinology to build further capacities for Public Health specialists working in this highly relevant field for improving the health status of the population.

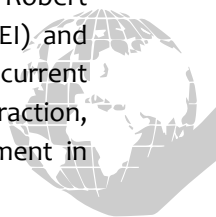


Research Centres of the Prasanna School of Public Health

Research activities at the Prasanna School of Public Health (PSPH) are organised in Centres. These Centres reflect the current and upcoming research needs in Public Health in India.

The ongoing development towards an Information Society offers citizens and patients new possibilities to acquire knowledge of health and disease and to play an active part in health care. For this we need to be more health literate than ever before. The **Centre for Health Literacy** researches Health Literacy which is linked to literacy and entails people's knowledge, motivation and competencies to access, understand, appraise, and apply health information in order to make judgments and take decisions in everyday life concerning healthcare, disease prevention and health promotion, all of which are paramount in maintaining or improving the quality of life. It is concerned with the capacities and empowerment of people to meet the complex demands of health in a new society. It collaborates with national & international institutes to generate evidence in the areas of health literacy on “what works”.

Health technology embraces different components related to Health Technology Assessment (HTA), Health Technology Management, Healthcare innovations, Health technology Impact Assessment, Quality, regulations and safety guidelines of Health Technology applications. To make informed policy decisions, it is important to have systematic evaluation and involvement of multidisciplinary teams in health intervention or health technology. Whereas there is no dearth of technological application in health care, it is rare to find the application of appropriate technology that has earned its place through diligence. Robert Bosch Engineering and Business Solutions Private Limited (RBEI) and Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) agree that in the current context of the necessity of specialized industry-academia interaction, working together is desirable to assist research and development in



healthcare technologies. The **Robert Bosch Centre of Health, Applied Research and Technology** addresses complexities in health technology through partnerships among multidisciplinary teams present in RBEI and MAHE to generate simple solutions in healthcare which would benefit larger sections of the population.

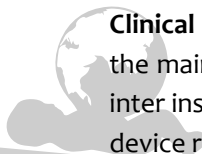
As infectious diseases are (still) a major threat to the Public's Health in India, the **Manipal McGill Center for Infectious Diseases (MAC-ID)** aims to achieve excellence in infectious diseases research, training and the promotion of translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

In a unique partnership between Mc Gill University, Canada and the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), around 140 researchers cooperate in this centre. The goal of MAC ID seed grant awards is to encourage faculty members of MAHE in research in the area of infectious diseases and generate a critical mass of fundamental information and pilot data which can further help the investigators to develop proposals for extramural funding. Research results are disseminated via training courses, the Mc Gill summer school and publications in international publications.

As more and more infectious diseases are becoming preventable by immunization the importance of the **Centre for Vaccine Studies** is increasing.

The **Centre for Community Oncology** aims to be a centre of excellence for the prevention and control of cancer in the community by primary, secondary and tertiary prevention activities. It has a focus on combatting common cancers in the region. Several research projects regarding the awareness and early detection of cancer have already been successfully finalised. In cooperation with most of the regional actors in health and care, new models for cancer screening are being developed and tested.

To generate evidence in clinical research is the mission of the **Clinical Epidemiology Unit**. Training and conduct of clinical research are the main activities of this centre. It encourages clinical research through inter institutional cooperation and liaises with industry for diagnostic and device related clinical research.



Public Health Evidence South Asia (PHESA) is an initiative which includes the South Asian satellite of Cochrane Public Health (CPH), based at Manipal Academy of Higher Education. Its aim is to partner with various organizations and individuals across subject areas to solve a variety of public health problems faced by low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and to facilitate the synthesis, production and dissemination of high quality evidence of the effects of Public Health interventions relevant to the South Asian Region. Capacity Building is achieved by mentoring reviewers and methodologists in the South Asian region for conducting and appreciating systematic reviews of public health importance. Evidence is built by producing systematic reviews of public health interest relevant to the South Asian region.

As we go ahead, there will be further additions of Institutions and Centres, in keeping with the vision and mission of the Prasanna School of Public Health, which is to be a leading institution in Public Health education and research.





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