

Raya Rangaraya Medical College - History

Rangaraya Medical College was started as a private medical college in 1958. It was the result of dedicated efforts by Dr M V Krishnarao, who was a Minister of Education in the cabinet of Sri Rajaji in the composite Madras state. He was later joined by Colonel Dr D S Raju, M R C P, who was a personal physician of Sri Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and later Deputy Minister of Defence and Health in the cabinet of Sri Jawaharlal Nehru.

Though their efforts started in 1955 the college became a reality on 2nd April 1958 in a meeting in Kakinada attended by Sri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in the house of Dr Lakkaraju Subbarao where the Maharajah of Pithapuram gave consent to start the Medical College in an orphanage building complex being run by him on Pithapuram road of Kakinada.

As a first step a Society called 'Kakinada Medical Education Society' was registered on 16 April 1958 to oversee the starting of the Medical College by July 1958 with the core aims of providing Medical education, Medical research and Medical service.

Munificent donors of East and West Godavari donated liberally for this medical college, of which Sri Mullapudi Harischandra Prasad donated Rs. 500,000/- magnanimously. In gratitude to the generous donation the Medical Education Society named the college after his Brother-in-law and Grandfather, Late Sri Pendyala Sriramachandra Venkata Krishna Rangarao (Ranga) and Sri Mullapudi Venkatarayudu (Raya) respectively. Hence the name RANGARAYA Medical College.

Sri Kotamarti Venkanna donated 6 acres and 7 cents of land to locate the Men's Hostel buildings.

The first Principal was Sri Basudeva Narayana, Eminent teacher of Physiology, Retired Vice-Chancellor of Patna University and Vice President of Indian Medical Council. The first Professor of Anatomy was Dr S L Bose and Dr D Narayanarao was the first Bio-chemistry professor.

In June 1958, Andhra University officials gave inspected the Pre-clinical departments and gave permission for starting of the new 'Sri Rangaraya Memorial Medical College' for a period of two years.

The college started on 17 September 1958 with the Introductory speech of Dr V S Krishna, Vice chancellor of Andhra University followed by the first lecture delivered by Sri Gorti Sankarabhanu, of the Chemistry department.

The Emblem of the college was designed by making minor changes to the emblem of the Andhra University. The inscription on it - 'Sarve santu Niramaya', was suggested by Sri Samavedam Janakirama Sastry. It was from the holy vedas, and means - let everybody become healthy.

Officially the college was started by the then Chief Minister and Minister of Health of Andhra Pradesh Sri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy on 17 November 1958.

The New lecture gallery was started by Sri D.P.Karmarkar, the then Central minister for Health in the presence of Sri J.V.Narsingarao, A P State minister on Dt.23 January 1959.

100/229

On 14 October 1959 Government of Andhra Pradesh notified the existing District Head Quarters Hospital in Kakinada as the Teaching Hospital attached to the Rangaraya Medical College.

The first college day was held on 13 March 1960 with Sri M.Pallamraju and Sri P.V.G.Raju as Chief guests.

Vice president of India, Sri Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan laid the foundation stone for the Anatomy and Physiology block on Dt.04 August 1961. A music concert by Sri Mangalampalli Balamuralikrishna was organized the same evening where the first College magazine was handed over to Sri Radhakrishnan by Dr S.P.Sehegal.

The college name was changed to 'Rangaraya Medical College' in 1961.

The Men's hostel buildings were inaugurated on 01 October 1962 by Sri Neelam Sanjivareddy.

During the war with China the intake of students was increased from 100 to 150. This was later brought down to 100 in 1974. The hospital was reorganized with an expenditure of Rs.3,600,000/- and the bed strength was increased from 750 to 900. The Medical Education Society spent about Rs.2,500,000/-.

Colonel D.S.Raju laid the foundation stone to the Ladies' hostel on Dt.04 July 1962. It was inaugurated by Dr Suseela nair on 04 July 1964.

Dr J B S Haldane donated his body to the Pathology department of this college for scientific research in 1964.

After 1964 the Medical Education Society transferred the management of the Medical college to Rangaraya Medical College administrating society.

During its tenure the Medical Education Society built the 3 storied Surgical block, Orthopaedics block, Cardiology block, the 3 storied Out patient block, and the 3 storied Clinical Biochemistry, Preventive medicine, and Microbiology block, and the Forensic medicine block of buildings. It has also built the Para clinical block for Pharmacology and Pathology departments, The main Library and lecture halls opposite the Government General Hospital.

Construction of the staff quarters in the College campus started in 1971.

Diploma courses were started in 5 disciplines in 1972.

Government of Andhra Pradesh took over the college administration on 30 April 1977 by a special ordinance.

Post graduate degree courses in all disciplines were started in 1976-77.

The development of the college continued as the student intake in Under-graduate and Post-graduate courses increased. In recent times, as the ratio of girl students increased, ^{hence} the capacity of the Ladies hostel has been enhanced. A separate hostel was built for Post-graduate students. The bed strength of the hospital was also enhanced to fulfill MCI guidelines on student:bed ratio and also due to increased