



*We Welcome
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
Prof. (Dr.) G.Gopa Kumar
Central University of Kerala
for a special lecture on "Ayushman Bharat Yojana"*



27 Sept, 2018

**Department of Public Health & Community Medicine
School of Medicine & Public Health
Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod**

**Special Lecture on Ayushman Bharat by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of CUK
Prof. G Gopa Kumar**

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the Central University of Kerala, Prof. (Dr) G. Gopa Kumar delivered a special lecture on "Public health in India and policy implications in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, CUK on 27 September 2018. **The special lecture developed necessary skills among the PhD and PG students (Dept of Public Health and Dept of Public Administration) on the concept of Ayushman Bharat**" (one of the largest health insurance scheme globally). The lecture was attended by over 70 participants consisting of Deans of Schools (School of Medicine & Public Health and Social Sciences), faculty members as well as PG and PhD students.

During the course of his deliberation, Prof Gopa Kumar emphasised the importance of public health for social and economic development of India. He reiterated the urgent need for the improvement of health, education and infrastructure sectors for overall development of the country and pointed out that "*rural India is real India*"

At the same time he expressed his concern for the rural-urban divide with respect to availability, affordability and accessibility of health care services. Thus, he highlighted the need to improve healthcare services delivery, particularly in rural India where a majority of the population reside.

While acknowledging on the fact that a small proportion of India's population are covered under health insurance, Prof. Gopa Kumar stated that Yojanas like "Ayushman Bharat" particularly the National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS) and Health and Wellness Centres will serve as a beacon of light in strengthening the country's public health system.

Soon after his lecture, a debate session on "Ayushman Bharat" was organised by the post-graduate and PhD students of the Department of Public Health & Community Medicine together with the Department of Public Administration & Policy Studies.



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