

## President lists ICT, PPP as key drivers for healthcare

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The recent deliberations at the two day conference of the 'Healthcare Alliance', a multi-stakeholder collaborative project spearheaded by the Apollo Hospitals and Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) concluded at New Delhi on March 4, 2014. It was followed by the presentation of the recommendations to the president of India, Mr Pranab Mukherjee at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Speaking on the occasion, the president said that the need of the hour is for a much greater convergence of all stakeholders towards the common goal of an improved healthcare delivery system. It is also important not to lose focus on the fact that a powerful driver of health is education. Innovative models of partnership between the public and private sectors can improve the situation in India and also provide insights for the developing world. ICT can be a strong enabler in strengthening the reach of medical information and care. He stated that our healthcare systems must gear up to fully utilize this potential. As our battle against polio has shown, collective efforts can really make miracles happen.

"Innovative models of partnership between the public and private sectors can improve the situation in India and also provide insights for the developing world. A sustained focus on healthcare excellence in India is crucial not only for our nation, but the world at large. India is a regional resource for high quality care. As one of the largest manufacturer and exporters of medicine, India has brought cost efficiency to the world in the generics domain. This is a huge advantage that needs to be leveraged further," said Mr Mukherjee

The president said that leading healthcare providers around the world are exploring the incredible promise of our traditional healing. This is an avenue that should be further dwelt upon and we may possibly discover new cures for the new-age medical problems. The President urged all present on the occasion to make it their mission to infuse in all a passion for healthy living.

Among the dignitaries present on the occasion were Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad, union minister of health and family welfare and Dr Prathap C. Reddy, chairman of Apollo Hospitals Group.