

Press Release

January 28, 2009

Establishment of Satellite Diagnostic Center of Genome Foundation in Karnataka

Exchange of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Genome Foundation, Hyderabad & Sri Devaraj Urs University, Kolar, Karnataka, India

HYDERABAD, India – January 28, 2009

The Genome Foundation in Hyderabad, India exchanged a MoU today with Sri Devaraj Urs University, Kolar, Karnataka, India to establish a Satellite Diagnostic Center in Karnataka to serve the rural community by making them aware of the several prevailing genetic diseases and to provide available cure and counseling as a part of its goal of reducing suffering from such diseases. The aim of the Foundation is to establish various branches across the length and breadth of India and it is committed to take these services to the rural masses. Towards this end, it has already established its first rural centre in Kalawari village, District Jaunpur, UP, India.

As a part of MoU, Sri Devaraj Urs University would identify a suitable land in its campus and donate it free of cost to the Genome Foundation to establish the rural centre, other amenities and manpower for future functioning of its centre. Genome Foundation will take up training the people in the modern techniques of biochemical, chromosomal and molecular diagnostics. Combined project proposals on various medical problems will be prepared for submitting to various funding agencies. The entire process is expected to be completed in the next 18 months.

The MoU is signed by Dr Lalji Singh, Founder Director and MD, Genome Foundation and Dr S Chandrashekar Shetty, Vice Chancellor, Sri Devaraj Urs University in the gracious presence of Shri R L Jalappa, President, Sri Devaraj Urs University and a Champion of Cooperative Movement in India.

Genome Foundation

The Genome Foundation, a non-profit making organization, is a congregation of intellectuals with high professional integrity. It proposes to make a bridge between scientists involved in basic and applied research on one hand and clinicians on the other by having alliances with hospitals and research institutions. It envisages networking with the socially committed organizations, communities and NGOs with similar objectives. It proposes to reduce the burden of genetic disorders in India by providing diagnostic services such as molecular diagnosis, carrier analysis, prenatal diagnosis and genetic counseling, for various genetic diseases such as hemoglobinopathies, muscular dystrophy, neurodegenerative diseases, mental retardation syndromes, bleeding disorders and mitochondrial disorders as well as chromosomal analysis for various syndromes, recurrent abortions and male and female sterility and DNA-profiling related services.

The Genome Foundation will use the information it collects to develop the so-called personalized medicine, whereby treatments can be tailored according to each person's genome. This has the benefits of providing more appropriate treatment with improved patient outcomes, and better overall standards of health and well-being for the people of India. In the long term, the Genome Foundation hopes to provide the full range of biochemical, cytogenetic and DNA-based diagnostic services for all common disorders across the country.

Sri Devaraj Urs University, Kolar, Karnataka

Genesis

In 1984, dedicated and like-minded visionaries headed by Shri R L Jalappa, a champion of Cooperate Movement, established Sri Devaraj Urs Educational Trust for Backward Classes, to focus on Medical Education and Social Service. The Trust started Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College, Tamaka, Kolar in the year 1986. Through this college the Trust sought to make a significant contribution to Medical Education, Research and Healthcare to Rural population through University Hospital.

The Trust in its stride for attainment of quality service to its stake-holders has obtained accreditation by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC, India) and Certification

by ISO 9001-2000 in the year 2006 for its Medical College. Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College is one of the few Medical Colleges in India to have achieved this remarkable feat.

About the University

Sri Devaraj Urs University, comprising Sri Devaraj Urs Medical College under the aegis of Sri Devaraj Urs Educational Trust for Backward Classes, Kolar is a Deemed to be University declared under section 3 of UGC Act 1956 on May 25th 2007.

The University office and the constituent college are located at Tamaka village, Kolar and spread over 100 acres of lush green campus with several buildings to accommodate the administrative, teaching/training, hospital, hostel facilities of the University and Medical College.

The attached teaching hospital of the Medical College, R L Jalappa Hospital and Research Centre provide secondary and tertiary healthcare to the rural and urban population of the Kolar district and bordering areas of the neighbouring states of Tamil Nadu as well as Andhra Pradesh. Its mandate is to develop trained manpower of medical professionals to cater to the needs of the community and provide service to the needy rural population. The University also has set up an OP Unit at Kolar town and conducts committed outreach services to the needy through free-medical camps at taluk levels as well as in villages of remote areas.
