

IACTS

Newsletter



INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF CARDIOVASCULAR AND THORACIC SURGEONS

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Dr. Ramprassath



Dr. Mohammed Idhrees

FROM THE DESK OF YOUR SECRETARY

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from Team Executive Committee and me! The interest shown by the esteemed members in the affairs of the association and our profession has been overwhelming. I have a new Executive Committee to take care of these responsibilities laid on our shoulders and we are encouraged constantly by the participation and response.

The modernization of the constitution to cater to the present-day needs is on the anvil and we have involved many members across the country who were passionate about it. Education and streamlining syllabus are another of our concerns. Inclusion of wire skills and structural interventional training has been on the minds of many and we are working on efficient and intensive means of making it happen. A direct 6 year course in the MCh stream is also being worked upon.

A new Webinar series has been inaugurated which will provide a regular academic input and serve to augment our diminishing coffers as well.

I would encourage our beloved members to actively participate in the National Database and benefit from it as well.

An array of Journals has been made available to the members free of charge to the individual members and I would encourage a



more active readership. We would be happy to see more articles submitted for our own journal too.

We have started on the right foot with a lot of energy and gusto. I expect to see us scaling greater heights together in the years to come.

Regards,

Dr Jacob Jamesraj

Secretary, Indian Association of Cardiovascular-Thoracic Surgeons



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear esteemed Members of the Indian Association of Cardiovascular Thoracic Surgeons,

It is with immense pride and deep gratitude that I assume the role of President of our prestigious association. I am both honoured and humbled by the trust you have placed in me to lead and serve our Association.

Our association has a rich legacy of pioneering advancements, fostering educational growth, and upholding the highest standards of patient care. It is my fervent commitment to continue this legacy, building upon the remarkable achievements of my predecessors, and to steer our association towards new pinnacles of success and innovation.

In the coming months, I envision our association not only as a hub of clinical and surgical excellence but also as a nurturing ground for research, education and collaboration. Prioritize mentorship, training, and skill development for young surgeons, ensuring that they inherit a field that is dynamic, inclusive, and ethically grounded.

We will be expanding our educational programs, fellowships,



MESSAGE FROM JOINT SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Greetings from the office of Jt. secretary and treasurer from Mumbai!

Kudos to a fresh start under the inspiring leadership of Dr. Devgourou and Dr. Jacob Jamesraj which I believe will herald a new period of faster decision making and major changes mirroring the mandate of the general body.

I hope to bring in more financial reforms to make our association legally compliant, try to close all tax liabilities and be self-sufficient with a proper audit of all accounts.

Best wishes and LONG LIVE IACTS!

Dr. Bijoy Kutty

workshops, and conferences, ensuring that our members have access to the latest knowledge, skills, and best practices. Moreover, I am committed to promoting research initiatives and collaborations with AATS, STS and other Associations.

As promised in the GB we will work to bringing amendments to our Constitution, and also work on bringing an updated and uniform curriculum for residency training.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our members for your unwavering support and commitment.

Hope to bring in positive changes for our Association to keep with changing times.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President. Let us aspire, innovate, and excel—united in our mission to advance the field of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery.

With warm regards,

Dr Devagourou Velayoudam

President -IACTS

Indian Association of Cardiovascular-Thoracic Surgeons

Editor's Musings



Dear Friends,

After all the song and dance of the annual conference in Delhi, you must have all settled in the mundane, or may be sublime, of your daily life. As for us, we have sat down to the onerous responsibility of framing amendments to our constitution. However, for an exercise as serious and pithy to the conduct of the day-to-day affairs of the association, besides touching us all in more ways than one, it becomes not only desirable, but in fact mandatory that everyone does due diligence on the constitution and express views about the changes merited. I thus implore you to please give us your feedback on the matters at hand. I can be contacted on: op_yadava@yahoo.com.

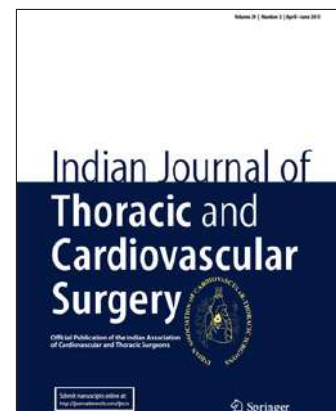
Changing gears, I hope the journal is reaching you on time. Please do be suitably informed that we are now a monthly publication, and that you should receive the journal of the month in the very first week of the index month; if not please let us know.

We also seek your feedback on the 2 features we introduced recently for all Original Articles - Graphic Abstract and Video Abstract. Former is a downloadable summary slide which is ready to go for all your presentations; and the latter is a voiceover of the salient features of the 'Original articles', a feature we thought would be very useful for the busy-bee amongst you, as it can be accessed on the move.

We yearn to hear from you...always.

Warmly,

Dr OP Yadava,
Editor-in-Chief,
Indian Journal of Thoracic and
Cardiovascular Surgery.



IACTSCON 2025

The 71st Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeons – IACTSCON 2025 was held from February 20th – 23rd at Hotel Pullman – Novotel, Aerocity, New Delhi. Theme of the conference was **“United for Excellence: Global Perspectives in Cardiothoracic Surgery”**.

The inaugural ceremony was held on 20th February. Surgeon Vice Admiral Dr Arti Sarin, AVSM, VSM, Director General Armed Forces Medical Services was the chief guest at inaugural function. She appreciated the efforts of cardiac surgical fraternity in spreading awareness in the society and helping hundreds of thousands of patients. She also highlighted the role of Army hospitals in cardiac surgery.



Inauguration by lighting the lamp
on 20th February
by Surgeon Vice Admiral

-Dr. Arti Sarin, AVSM,

VSM, Director General Armed
Forces Medical Services.



Dr. Zile Singh Meharwal
Organising Secretary

This conference brought together renowned experts, pioneers, and young professionals from around the globe, united in our shared commitment to advancing the field of cardiac surgery and improving patient care. The conference promised to be an extraordinary platform for exchanging ideas, showcasing the latest innovations, and fostering collaborations that shall continue to shape the future of cardiac care. During these four days, the participants ardently explored into cutting-edge research, pioneering surgical techniques, and advancements in medical technologies that are revolutionizing cardiac surgery.

The Delhi Medical Council accredited 22 Credit Hours which was a boon to our academic credentials.

The scientific program comprised of the following programmes were carefully designed to cater to the multidisciplinary cadre.

- Pre Conference Workshop
- Scientific Programme
- PA Scientific Programme
- Nursing Programme
- Workshops

Pre-conference hands on workshop were conducted at All India Institute of Medical Sciences. Members of American Association of Thoracic Surgery (AATS) were among the faculty for workshop. The conference was attended by almost 1800 participants from India and abroad. The conference comprised of sessions, guest lectures, lunch symposia, panel discussions, orations and workshops. Day 1 of the conference was Post graduate program, which was conducted in collaboration with AATS. There were four halls dedicated to adult cardiac surgery, congenital heart surgery and thoracic surgery. Scientific sessions included talks on aortic surgery, heart and lung transplant and mechanical support devices, minimally invasive cardiac surgery and how I do it sessions. Faculty comprised of renowned National and International surgeons. All the sessions were attended by huge number of delegates with active interaction. One hall was dedicated to e-posters.

Hands on Pre-conference workshops were held and the sessions are as follows:

20th February 2025, Thursday	
Pre Lunch	
○	W-1: Wire Skill Workshop
○	W-2: Aortic Valve Replacement
○	W-3: Vascular Anastomosis Hands-on Training
○	W-4: EVH Workshop
Post Lunch	
○	W-1: Wire Skill Workshop
○	W-2: Aortic root enlargement
○	W-3: Vascular Anastomosis Hands-on Training
○	W-4: Treat the Aorta – Surgical Repair solutions
21st February 2025, Friday	
Pre Lunch	
○	W-1: Advanced Heart Failure – Mechanical Circulatory support
○	W-2: Mitral Valve Replacement
○	W-3: Coronary Anastomosis Hands-on Training
○	W-4: Treat the aorta-TEVAR hands on workshop
Post Lunch	
○	W-1: TAVI Workshop
○	W-2: Aortic root enlargement
○	W-3: Coronary Anastomosis Hands-on Training
○	W-4: FET Masterclass: Learn from Masters
22nd February 2025, Saturday	
Pre Lunch	
○	W-1: Mitral Valve Repair
○	W-2: Valve replacement Hands-on Training
○	W-3: EVH Workshop
Post Lunch	
○	W-1: – Tricuspid Valve Repair
○	W-3: TAVI Workshop
○	W-4: FET Masterclass: Learn from Masters
23rd February, Sunday	
○	W-1: TAVI Workshop

The workshops were highly appreciated by the young surgeons and students.



Physician Assistants form an integral part of the Cardiac Surgical Program throughout the world. Keeping up with the momentum from across the globe, the Physician Assistants in our nation having kept up the pace with progress in academics, clinical trials and data management.

Physician Assistants forum was held on 22nd February 2025. It was a one full day program, filled with an academic bonanza including a keynote address by Dr. P. Chandrasekar. There were a few informative academic talks by senior Physician Assistant's from across the country. IACTS Certification exam was conducted as usual which was taken up by numerous PAs. This aimed at helping the physician assistants to endorse themselves in terms of opportunities and professional progress. This year too, the exam was conducted on 23rd February 2025. The certificates were awarded to the participants by the President of IACTS.

The Indian Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (IJTCVS), a bi-monthly published, PubMed included, official publication of Indian Association of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeons (IACTS), is dedicated to publishing peer-reviewed research in thoracic and cardiovascular medicine and surgery.

Judges: Prof Deepak Tempe, Dr Devagourou Velayoudam and Dr Amaresh Rao Malempati

Best Original Article

Salama A, Ibrahim G, Fikry M, Elsannan MH, Eltahlawi M. Prognostic value of highly sensitive Troponin T in patients with severe Aortic stenosis undergoing Valve replacement surgery. Ind J Thoracic Cardiovasc Surg. 2024;40(2):142-150

Best Brief Research Report

Vinay HG, Reddy RG, Ramprashanth MP. Colonic transposition using mid colon for corrosive oesophageal strictures. Ind J thoracic Cardiovasc Surg. 2024;40(1):58-63.

Best Case Report

Goyal VD, Gupta S, Pahade A, Misra G, Prajapati N. Ewing's sarcoma of kidney extending into IVC and RA: resection using modified cannulation strategy for CPB. Ind J thoracic Cardiovasc Surg. 2024;40(3):365-368

Best Reviewer Awards – 2024

Judges: Dr OP Yadava – Editor in Chief, Dr Pradeep Narayan – Associate Editor, Dr T Sunder – Associate Editor, Dr Praveen Varma – Assistant Editor

Awardees:

- Prof Balram Airan
- Dr B R Jagannath

A very special thanks to all the exhibitors for their active participation and generous sponsorship contributions to the following Medical Industries and Device Companies.

Annual General Body Meeting was held on 21st February which was followed by Gala Dinner. Everyone enjoyed the Gala Dinner and entertainment program.

ORATIONS AND MEMORIAL LECTURES

The following Orations and Memorial Lectures were delivered during the conference.

C S Sadasivan Oration

CTVS – is the pedestal shaking?

Dr O P Yadava

Godrej S.Karai Oration

Robotic Thoracic surgery – science art and ethical considerations

Dr Amitabha Chakraborty

P K Sen memorial lecture

Revival of cardiac surgery- from conventional to contemporary era of MICS

Dr Namrata Gaur

K N Dastur memorial lecture

The art and science of economics of congenital heart surgery in India

Dr Debasis Das

M P Mehta memorial lecture

Mediastinal tumors - Diagnosis and treatment

Dr V Krishnakumar Kodelli

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDEES



Dr V V Bashi



Dr Sirup Chatterjee



Dr K S Iyer



Dr James Thomas

Awards paper

UNITED FOR EXCELLENCE: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
IN CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

20th-23rd FEBRUARY 2025
ULLMAN AERODROME DELHI



We had a flurry of papers sent to us at IACTSCON 2025 Six were shortlisted and the best was chosen for the award



Dr Sufina Shales was awarded the best paper award for her presentation on Reexploration after Coronary artery bypass grafting Risk factors impact on mortality.

4th Annual Conference of the Society of Coronary Surgeons INDIA

The 4th Annual Conference of the Society of Coronary Surgeons was held on 4th and 5th of April 2025 at Kochi, Kerala. The Organizing Chairman Dr. Shiv K Nair, the Organizing Secretary Dr. Praveen Varma, along with the entire Organizing team left no stone unturned to make this a meeting that set high standards - a well curated scientific content, comfortable and convenient venue with delicious food. The conference theme 'the art and science of Coronary Artery Surgery', was aptly brought out in each session with brilliant lectures followed by lively interaction by discussants.

Prof Gianni Angelini in his Keynote address while describing his academic journey, implored us to think about the future of the specialty and innovate to stay relevant. Prof Torsten Doenst, delivering the SCS Oration, spoke of the paradigm shift that is necessary to describe the term 'myocardial revascularisation'.

Dr. P. Chandrasekar, in his Presidential address, while defining the purpose and future path of the Society, stressed on consistency and learning from our own collective work by meticulously maintaining databases, being the key to excellence.

With more than 300 surgeons in attendance, the scientific content was a complete package – from 'back to basics' lectures, a quick look at relevant landmark trials, discussions on daily practice scenarios, Off-pump surgery, arterial grafting, minimally access CABG and a lively session on robotic Coronary Surgery. There were several doctors who participated online, speaking on their specialty and sharing their work online. The meeting concluded with an energetic discussion on wire skills for surgeons.



Parallel sessions for Physician Assistants on endoscopic harvesting of radial artery and saphenous vein conduits had a full house. The Nursing session on Sunday had active participation of the Nurses.

In addition to the main conference, a workshop on Coronary Anastomosis and the 'DaVinci Robotic Village' was especially appreciated by the young surgeons and those interested in Robotic Surgery.





SCORE 2025

The Score program saw more than 85 students most of whom were exam going and they benefitted by exam oriented teaching which included case presentations and lectures. An array of eminent faculty participated in the program organized by our Junior Vice President Dr Hiremath in Bengaluru on the 1st and 2nd of March. The program was graced by the president of the national board of examinations Dr Abhijat Seth who greatly appreciated the arrangements made and wished we could conduct similar programs all over the country.

The 3rd Eastern India Aortic Conclave- April 12th & 13th, 2025

The "3rd Eastern India Aortic Conclave" was conducted on April 12th & 13th, 2025 in Durgapur, West Bengal. It was indeed an academic extravaganza par excellence which also featured complex aortic surgeries at the Mission Hospital in their state of the art theatres. Professor Roberto De Bartolomeu explained the various nuances of these with ease as the mesmerised audience watched with admiration. FET and Valve Sparing Root Replacement Surgery were performed with grace and elan effortlessly.

The next day was the main event held at Hotel ITC Fortune Park. The event was extremely well attended with over 250 eminent surgeons from all across the country who put aside their busy schedules and travelled to Durgapur. The topics discussed were comprehensive and wide ranging from the basics of ascending aorta surgery to advanced endovascular interventions. The content was rich and engaging for both CT Surgery Residents as well as experienced surgeons, so much so that the event saw a packed auditorium well into the night!

After a sumptuous dinner and a good night's sleep, Day 2 of the event commenced with an engaging session on Aortic Valve Repair by Dr. Prasanna Simha and a fascinating session on MICS Bentall by Dr. Gopichand Mannem. The attendees also had the good fortune of listening to Dr. Anil Bhan's journey in cardiothoracic surgery and his expertise in the red-hot field of TAVI valve explantations.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by the organizing chairman and current senior Vice President of IACTS Dr. Satyajit Bose.



An honour from AATS

Our President Dr Devagourou has been honoured with a membership by the American Association of Thoracic Surgeons at their annual conference in Seattle on the 3rd of May 2025. A strong team from India comprising of Dr Devagourou, Dr Bijoy Kutty, Dr Satyajit Bose, Dr Manoj Durairaj, Dr Debasis Das and Dr Rajan Sethurathinam participated in the conference and the event to honor Dr Devagourou.



IACTS Technocollege May 10th and 11th 2025

May 10th and 11th saw the IACTS Technocollege in Lucknow. The venue was on the dizzying heights of the 10th floor brand new auditorium of the Ram Manohar Lohia Institute. A huge collection of lectures aimed at mid level and mature surgeons were put together by Dr Dharmendra Srivastava in the true spirit of what the Technocollege was intended for. It was attended by over 200 participants from all over the country physically and by many more virtually as it was a hybrid event.

Our soldiers and their contribution for our safety was remembered in praise and gratitude by many including the IACTS Secretary Dr Jacob Jamesraj.

Dr A P Jain welcomed everyone and addressed the gathering. The president Dr Devagourou lectured online and was part of the scientific extravaganza. The culinary delights of the Oudh cuisine delighted one and all!





Curio Corner

Dr Shukla was spotted relaxing! He had a cloth, needle and stitch in his hands! Look at the creation at the end of a period of relaxation. Friends, we at the executive committee wish all of you a healthy long life. We encourage all members to have a meaningful me time of rejuvenation!



IACTS CMEs for 2025

IACTS Technocollege 2025, Lucknow

Organising Secretary
Dr Dharmendra Srivatsava

10th and 11th
May
2025

CT CME Sreechitra, Trivandrum

Organising Secretary
Dr Vivek Pillai

9th and 10th
August
2025

Thoracic CME Kolkata

Organising Secretary
Dr Bandopadhyay

November
2025

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

14th – 17th
May 2025

ASCVTS,
Singapore
Convention
& Exhibition
Centre,
Singapore.

13th and 14th
June 2025

Live 3D Endoscopic
Cardiac Surgery
Workshop, Madurai,
Tamilnadu.

Organising Secretary
Dr Ramprasad

19th and 20th
July 2025

The sixteenth
hands on Cardiac
Morphology Course,
MMM, Chennai.

Course Director
Dr Jacob Jamesraj

3rd - 5th
October, 2025

6th Annual conference
of the Indian Society
for Heart & Lung
Transplantation, Jaipur

Organising Secretary
Dr Raj Kumar Yadav

IACTS Resident's wing

If we have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants."

– Inspired by Sir Isaac Newton

Residents are the foundation of our Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery curriculum. Yet, it is upon the shoulders of giants—our teachers and mentors—that our true growth and progress rest. As the resident's wing, we are grateful for the opportunity to stand on the shoulders of IACTS, allowing us to look further, grow deeper, and aim higher.

In alignment with the vision of our current Secretary and Executive Committee, we have embarked on several initiatives: creating educational videos, organizing resident-exclusive sessions during our national conference, and planning skill-enhancement workshops, wet labs, and research initiatives.

Let this section of the newsletter serve as the voice of residents across our great nation, echoing our aspirations and achievements—with the unwavering support of our mentors and the guiding light of IACTS.

- IACTS Resident's Wing

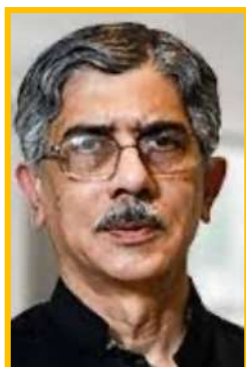
Dr. Dinesh Kumar Sathanantham



Message from Chairman, IACTS Database Committee

Dear Colleagues,

Over the past couple of decades our Cardiovascular and Thoracic surgical community has made tremendous progress and can now justifiably stake its claim to be amongst the leading countries in the world, not just in volumes but also in the quality of surgery. We have rapidly adopted cutting edge technologies and are breaking new ground in areas such as robotic assisted cardiac surgery.



However, we will not be recognized internationally in the field of research unless we can present robust data that can showcase our achievements. Western countries beat us in this game, because they diligently maintain robust databases and so even with much smaller volumes of surgeries, they are able to churn out research papers that are readily accepted in the most respected journals.

The IACTS database has been work in progress for the last five years and is in a phase of consolidation. The datasets are fairly comprehensive and divided into the broad categories of Adult, Thoracic, Congenital, Aortic and Transplant with the capacity to add on other sub-specialties as deemed necessary. Over 30,000 patient records have been entered so far. However, this remains a very small fraction of the cases that are done across the country in the various Institutions, hospitals and even nursing homes. As of now only 32 centers are participating in the database as listed below, despite the best efforts of the Database team to recruit new participants.

This message is an earnest appeal to all IACTS members to become contributors to the IACTS National Database and make it an international success story. The joining process is simple and the Database working group will provide all necessary assistance to initiate the process and train the local personnel for database entries. Our strength lies in our numbers and collectively we can make the change! Let joining the National database be your resolution for 2025.

Thank you all once again.

Dr Krishna S Iyer

Chairman,
IACTS Database Committee.

Site Name	Address
Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical sciences	Bangalore, Karnataka
Star Hospital Hyderabad	Hyderabad, Telangana
National Heart institute	Delhi
SRM INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCE	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
G.Kuppuswamy Naidu Memorial Hospital	Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
NH Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences	Kolkata
MEDICA SUPER SPECIALTY HOSPITAL	Kolkata
Fortis Escorts Heart Institute & Research Centre	Delhi
Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research Bengaluru	Bangalore, Karnataka
Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research	Gulbarga
Medway Heart Institute, Chennai	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
Narayana Hrudayalaya- BLR	Bangalore, Karnataka
Noor Hospital - J&K	Jammu & Kashmir
Medical Trust Hospital	Ernakulam, Kerala
KG Hospital	Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
Bill Roth Hospitals Chennai	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
DZ Patel Cardiology Centre	Nadiad, Gujarat
AIIMS BATHINDA	Bathinda, Punjab
Kauvery Hospital	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
SMSIMSR	Bangalore, Karnataka
The Mission Hospital	Durgapur, West Bengal
Eternal hospital	Jaipur, Rajasthan
Rukmani Birla hospital	Jaipur, Rajasthan
Narayana Hospital	Howrah, Kolkata
Kauvery multispecialty hospital	Vadapalani, Chennai
Sahyadri Super specialty hospital	Pune
Medanta Hospital	Gurugram
Max Super specialty hospital	Shivamogga, Karnataka
Lokmanya Mult speciality hospital	Pune
Caritas hospital	Kottayam, Kerala
EPIC Multi speciality hospital	Ahmedabad, Gujarat
Believer's Church Medical College Hospital	Thiruvalla, Kerala

Obituaries

Professor Saibal Gupta

(28th February 1938 – 17th November 2024)



Prof. Saibal Gupta was a visionary cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon, pioneering researcher, esteemed educator, and celebrated author whose life exemplified innovation and excellence. With degrees in physiology from Presidency College and medicine from Calcutta Medical College, he embarked on a groundbreaking career in experimental surgery. In 1961, he built India's first heart-lung machine, a milestone that facilitated the nation's first open-heart surgery in August 1962.

Prof. Gupta pursued advanced postgraduate studies in India and abroad (1963–1967), enriching his expertise before becoming a distinguished professor at Calcutta University. His academic contributions included numerous internationally acclaimed research papers, earning him prestigious honors such as the Hunterian Professorship from the Royal College of Surgeons of England in 1981. A man of diverse talents, Prof. Gupta embraced creative writing later in life, authoring five acclaimed books, including *On the Seashore* (2014). His commitment to societal well-being was evident in his founding of the Integrated Cancer Alleviation and Research Trust in Calcutta in 2010, which continues to impact countless lives.

Prof. Saibal Gupta's remarkable contributions to medicine, education, and literature leave an enduring legacy of inspiration and transformation for generations to come.

Professor Sushila Sripad

(8th September 1941–21st December 2024)

Dr. Sushila Sripad was a pioneering cardiothoracic surgeon and educator who profoundly impacted medical practice and education in India. After earning her MBBS from Medical College, Calcutta, in 1963, she trained under eminent surgeons and conducted groundbreaking research on Takayasu's Arteritis and deep vein thrombosis. She further advanced her expertise in London before returning to India, where she became the first woman MCh in Cardiothoracic Surgery in West Bengal.

As a professor and head of the Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery department at Medical College, Calcutta, Dr. Sripad spearheaded research in various areas including oesophageal strictures, and vascular trauma. Her most enduring legacy, however, lies in her role as a mentor, inspiring generations of surgeons and perfusionists with her discipline, precision, and compassion. Dr. Sripad's contributions to medicine and education will be remembered as transformative and enduring.



Dr Kotturathu Mammen Cherian

March 8th 1942 – January 25th 2025



Dr K M Cherian was a pioneering cardiac surgeon of our nation. Born on 8th March 1942 in Kayamkulam, Kerala, Dr Cherian's journey began in Kasturba Medical College (Manipal) and then followed by CMC (Vellore). His quest for excellence took him across continents – to Australia, New Zealand, and the United States – where he trained under legends like Dr John W. Kirklin and Dr Albert Starr. Most of his work was done in Chennai at the Railway hospital, Vijaya Hospital, The Madras Medical Mission and the Frontier Lifeline hospital

He performed the first successful coronary artery bypass grafting in 1975 in our country. He has numerous firsts which include paediatric heart transplant and heart-lung transplant.

He was a great teacher and paved the way for many cardiac surgeons who trained under his care and guidance.

He served as the honorary surgeon to the President of India and became the first Indian to preside over the World Society of Cardio-Thoracic Surgeons in 2010. His name is etched on a stone in Kos Island, Greece, alongside three other Indian surgeons – a tribute to his global recognition.

Rest in peace, Dr Cherian. India and the world are forever grateful.



IACTS SECRETARIAT

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