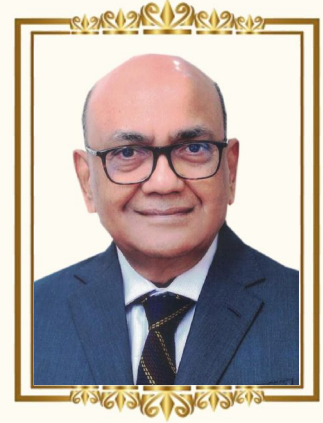


Padma Bhushan



DR. KALLIPATTI RAMASAMY PALANISWAMY



Dr. Kallipatti Ramasamy Palaniswamy is an eminent gastroenterologist with over four decades of experience.

2. Born on 15th March, 1949 in a remote village at Kallipatti, Erode District, Tamil Nadu, to an agricultural family, Dr. Palaniswamy graduated with an MBBS from Mysore University in 1972. He completed his MD (Internal Medicine) in 1977 and DM (Gastroenterology) in 1981 from Madras Medical College (Tamil Nadu). In 1986, he founded and set up the Department of Gastroenterology at Stanley Medical College. He served the poor population of North Chennai as Professor and Head of Department until 2000, during which he established a highly advanced gastroenterology department. After retiring from government service, he joined Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, as Senior Consultant and Head of Department of Gastroenterology where he was instrumental in establishing a highly sought-after training program for the National Board.

3. In 1999-2000, Dr. Palaniswamy served as President of the Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy of India (SGEI), where he initiated a task force to form guidelines for disinfection and maintenance of endoscopes and accessories. He served as President of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology (ISG) in 2004-2005, highlighting the importance of including the Hepatitis B vaccine in universal vaccination programs of developing countries. In 2015, he received an honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP) - Glasgow. He was Organizing Secretary of the Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology held in Chennai in 2003. As Organizing Chairman of the Chennai Digestive Diseases Week (DDW) in 2008, he introduced—for the first time in India—a hands-on Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS) workshop conducted by international experts on an anesthetized live pig model. From 2011 onwards, he has held various positions in committees of the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO), including member of the Foundation Committee, Nomination Committee, and currently the Train the Trainer Committee. In this capacity, he has conducted walkathons and public interactions to create awareness on various digestive health issues. In 2011, he was Organizing Secretary for the Train The Trainers (TTT) program by the WGO—the first such event in South East Asia, held in Chennai to improve global training standards in gastroenterology. His illustrious accomplishments include his appointment as Secretary General of the World Congress on Endoscopic Ultrasound, held in India in 2014. This landmark event, attended by world-renowned experts and national/international faculty, was organized for the first time in South East Asia.

4. Dr. Palaniswamy is deeply committed to serving the underprivileged. For over three decades, he has volunteered his services at the Ramakrishna Mutt dispensary in Chennai. He organized an international conference and public awareness program in Chennai in March, 2025, followed by a similar public awareness program in his native village Kallipatti in July, 2025 to promote screening colonoscopy and awareness on early diagnosis of colon cancer. He has been conducting annual camps for over ten years in the village Kallipatti, Erode district. He has been instrumental in bringing in infrastructural development in the village Kallipatti - namely the bridge across the Bhavani River, electrical substation, development of a new building at the primary health centre and a check- dam to improve the ground water.

5. In recognition of his contributions to the field of medicine and his commitment to inclusive public healthcare delivery, Dr. Palaniswamy was conferred the Padma Shri in 2007. He received an Honorary D.Sc. from The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University in 2014, the "Inspiring Doctor of India" Award by The Economic Times and "Legends in the Field of Gastroenterology" by The Times of India in 2018, "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Indian Society of Gastroenterology (ISG) in 2019 and Masters award by the World Gastroenterology Organisation (MWGO)- the highest award given by the World Gastroenterology Organisation in 2022.