



सत्यमेव जयते

राष्ट्रपति

भारत गणतंत्र

PRESIDENT

REPUBLIC OF INDIA



MESSAGE

It is commendable that the Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh (Indian Leprosy Association) has been observing an International Anti Leprosy Day on January 30 every year on the occasion of the martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhiji had special love and compassion for those suffering from leprosy. He strongly advocated that such persons should be brought into the mainstream of society.

Leprosy is a completely curable disease and can be prevented if detected early and treated properly. Increasing community awareness is essential for early case detection, compliance with treatment and community-based rehabilitation. It must be ensured that the remarkable gains made as a result of hard work of dedicated health personnel over many years are not dissipated when complete success is close at hand. We must work together to realize Gandhiji's dream of a 'Leprosy Free India'.

I convey my appreciation for the invaluable services rendered by Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh (Indian Leprosy Association), voluntary organisations and individuals in the efforts to eradicate this disease. On the occasion of the International Anti Leprosy Day, I call for renewed efforts to achieve a 'Leprosy Free India' in the shortest time possible.

(Pranab Mukherjee)

New Delhi
January 9, 2017