



President's Message

Dr Muruga Raj Rajathurai
President
president@mma.org.my

Greetings from the office of MMA,

The month of May was indeed a very busy month. The EXCO, Council and everyone at MMA were chasing to complete our programmes and events that we had lined up for our term. We have exactly three months to serve the members of MMA. Time just flies.

I had the opportunity to meet students from University Malaysia Sabah; this engagement was to prepare them for their housemanship, and advising them on how to differentiate between bullying and teaching in the hospital. I also took the opportunity to advise them of the need to join MMA as members, assuring them that we will be firm in representing them if the need arises.

I had the opportunity to attend the Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland on 20 May. I was representing the Commonwealth Medical Association at this meeting. Our YB Dr Zaliha was there with her team to present our country's report.



Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting at Geneva

MMA Career Guidance Fair

On 13-14 May, we organised the MMA Career Guidance Fair in The Gardens hotel, Midvalley. This is the first time Malaysia had such a conference where 17 organisations came together to address the high dropout rates in colleges/universities and in work life. We had 23 speakers from different professions to speak about their



With Baroness Patricia Scotland, Secretary General Commonwealth Secretariat

challenges and their success in each of their profession.

We organised this fair to let parents know that they shouldn't force their child to take up courses that their child has no interest in. We also highlighted that there are so many other courses that can give you a work-life balance and financial stability. We stressed the fact that we need to be happy in whatever we do. I must thank Dr Sivabala for

his commitment towards this career fair; he is an excellent organiser and I hope he will make this a calendar event.

World No Tobacco Day

On 23 May, MMA's ASH Committee won the Malaysian Book of Records for the most number (*24,248) of Poster Art entries for the annual competition. It is a big achievement and is one way to pass the message



Malaysia Book of Record

to Malaysian youths. I must thank Prof Dato' Dr Lekhraj and Dr Muralitharan and their team for the amazing job done.

On 25 May, I attended the seminar on "Harm in Harm Reduction" in Ipoh. The title says it all, vape was introduced to help fight the smoking habit, but eventually proved to be worse. There is no regulation on the vape industry, which is bad for our kids. Kids as young as 10 years old are vaping today.

On 31 May, 'World no Tobacco Day' was celebrated in Melaka and we had a good mix of school children, parents, teachers and politicians. Again, I thank the ASH committee and its team for organising this wonderful event. Our deputy health minister, YB Lukanisman had graced the occasion and shown the commitment of the Ministry of Health to get the GEG passed in the Parliament.

Nicotine has also been removed by the government from the Poisons Act. We have registered our disappointment on the

government's move and MMA has urged all the MPs from the government and opposition to come together to support and pass the new Tobacco Control Bill, and to support the Generation END Game (GEG). It is also our responsibility to speak to every Member of Parliament that we know to help us get this bill through, thus I hope all of you will help us by spreading the word around.

Medicolegal Knowledge is Important

On 27 May, we attended the MEDEFEND stakeholders engagement meeting. Many medicolegal experts exchanged their experiences and discussed cases in depth. It was interesting to get an insight into the many issues that can land you in trouble just because of ignorance.

Look forward to seeing you all in our MMA Congress, blessed month. **BMMA**



World No Tobacco Day