

Candidate for the Honorary General Secretary 2026/2027



Prof. Dr. Thana Sehgaran Shanmugam

MBBS; MSc (Epidemiology & Public Health); CEIP; FETP; CATE; GCP; FAGE; AM

MMC: 30379 | WARTA: 19277 | NSR: 128053 | FAGE 2022 | AMM: 04524

Public Health Physician & Epidemiologist, Community Medicine

Faculty of Medicine, AIMST University, Bedong 81000, Malaysia

Brief biography

Dr. Thana Sehgaran Shanmugam obtained his medical degree (MBBS) in 1991 from Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, India. In 1996 he received a SEAMEO-TROPMED-CTZ scholarship to pursue an MSc in Public Health (Epidemiology) at the College of Public Health, Manila, Philippines. He was gazetted as a Public Health Specialist in 2003 and holds National Specialist Registration (NSR) accreditation.

He served the Ministry of Health Malaysia for 33 years (from 1992), working in eight states in various capacities, including:

1. House Officer (Penang, 1992)
2. Public Health Clinic Administrator (Sarawak, 1993)
3. State Epidemiologist (Perak, 1998)
4. Hospital Director (Pahang, 2004)
5. Head of Emergency Department and Outpatient Department (Perak, 2006)
6. Medical Research Specialist (Wilayah, 2007)
7. Head of Public Health, Occupational Safety & Health, Inspectorate & Enforcement, Vaccination Serving Centre (VSC), and COVID Screening Centre (CSC) at Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Hospital, Klang (Selangor, 2017)
8. Public Health Physician, District Health Office Kuala Langat, Banting Selangor, 2020
9. Public Health Physician, KLIA Airport Covid 19 Quarantine Center, Selangor, 2021

10.Public Health Physician National Covid 19 Quarantine , Serdang Selangor ,2022

Representative and voluntary roles

- * Malaysian Medical Association (MMA): Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary, State SCHOMOS representative for Wilayah
- * Vice President, Selangor Indian Football Association (SICA)
- * Medical Team, Malaysia Indian Football Association (MIFA)
- * Life member: INTAN, SMK Assunta Parent–Teacher Association (Petaling Jaya)
- * MMA Voluntary Corps: involved in housing projects and medical screening for Orang Asli, Tapah (Perak)
- * Flood relief efforts in Rompin and Cha’ah (Johor)
- * International trustee for a higher secondary school in Kathivadi, Vellore, India (2000)

Current appointment

Dr. Thana has retired from the Ministry of Health and joined the Faculty of Medicine, AIMST University, Kedah, as Professor of Medicine on 10 April 2025 for a two-year appointment. He is currently Head of the Community Medicine Unit.

My mission

1. Ensure all house officers are offered permanent posts at UD 10 [UD44]at the end of their housemanship.
2. Ensure medical officers retire on the UD 15 (UD56) scale.
3. Ensure specialists retire on the JUSA C scale.
4. Provide a subspecialization allowance of RM1,000 for all subspecialists.
5. Second NCD (non-communicable disease) patients to general practitioners at a rate of RM80 per hour to reduce workload in Emergency & Trauma Departments, especially at category 7 hospitals with maximum surge capacity.
6. Calculate locum rates for medical officers, specialists, and consultants as: basic monthly salary ÷ 20 working days ÷ 7 billable hours per day (8-hour day with 1-hour unpaid lunch).

Establish a minimum after-office-hours locum rate of RM80–100 per hour for periods 5:00 pm–10:00 pm and 10:00 pm–8:00 am.

7. Introduce flexible-hours teams of at least five members to provide 24/7 coverage and reduce toxic work environments, especially in hospitals with maximum surge capacity.
8. Base manpower computations on both baseline (zero-level) requirements and surge-capacity needs.
9. Cross-link public and private health sectors via a paid scheme or designated locum system to provide continuous, seamless care, with locum rates of RM80–100 per hour.
10. Expand health insurance coverage for all income groups (B40, M40, T20, F40) to reduce out-of-pocket expenses and implement employer-shared insurance schemes for middle-income groups.