ASSOCIATION OF HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS INDIA
Tamil Nadu Chapter

MONTHLY

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

INTERNATIONAL NURSES DAY
12th May

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Defining Moment for Indian Medicine

AHPI v. Union of India — W.P. (C) No. 110/2026 | Next hearing: 28 July 2026

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

On 25 April 2026, a Bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court led by CJI Surya Kant and Hon'ble Justice Joymalya Bagchi issued Notice in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 110/2026 — Association of Healthcare Providers (India) v. Union of India, seeking the complete exclusion of medical professionals from the Consumer Protection Act, 2019. For the first time in three decades, the foundational question is open again: is medicine a "service" rendered to a "consumer," or a profession bound by oath, judgment, and uncertainty?

The 1995 V.P. Shantha judgment brought us under the CPA and changed the texture of Indian medicine forever. A covenant of trust became, in legal parlance, a transaction. In 2024, the Supreme Court excluded the legal profession from the CPA, holding that professional judgment cannot be equated with commercial service. That ruling is now the foundation of our case. If advocacy is a profession beyond the consumer paradigm, medicine — by every measure — must be too.

We have all lived the consequences. Tests we did not need. Referrals we could have managed. Documentation written for the file, not the patient. "Defensive medicine" is not a doctor's complaint — it is a public-health cost paid by every patient and every family.

The petition rests on six pillars: medicine is a profession, not a commercial service; the doctor-patient relationship is fiduciary, not transactional; defensive practice harms patients; the National Medical Commission is the appropriate forum for professional questions; the Union of India must file its Counter-Affidavit before 28 July; and the Court may yet reconsider V.P. Shantha itself.

Why AHPI needs the fraternity behind it. A case of this magnitude cannot be fought on goodwill. Senior counsel, drafting, expert affidavits, and the long road of hearings demand sustained financial commitment. AHPI has filed this petition on behalf of every doctor in India — member or not, metro or rural, junior or senior. The benefit, if we succeed, accrues to all. The cost of fighting it must, in fairness, be borne by all.

My appeal to AHPI Tamil Nadu members. Contribute to the AHPI Legal Defence Fund (details to follow from the State Office); speak about this case in your hospital, clinic, and district association; and stand united across specialties. The Court will weigh not only our legal arguments, but the moral coherence of our fraternity.

The hearings have begun. Let it be said, when the judgment comes, that every one of us was part of the effort that brought it about.

With warmth and respect,

Dr. Sathish Devadoss

President, AHPI Tamil Nadu Chapter

AHPI-TN Insurance Grievance Redressal:

If you have any concerns with Private Insurance / TPAs, you may reach out to us

Ms. Deepika - 96000 06584

MOU between AHPI-TN and CAHO
for Healthcare Training and Upskilling.

AHPI–TN has signed an MoU with CAHO to drive structured training and upskilling initiatives, focusing on quality, patient safety, and hospital operations across member institutions.

AHPI - TN meeting with Affordplan

AHPI-TN conducted a roundtable discussion with CEOs and senior management from leading hospitals during CAHOCON 2026, focusing on unlocking hospital profitability through new-age solutions such as Swasth™ and Procalyx™

AHPI–TN Submits GST Recommendations to Strengthen Healthcare Sector

The AHPI–TN has submitted key recommendations to the GST Council to address structural challenges in the healthcare sector and reduce the financial burden on hospitals.

Although healthcare services are exempt from GST, hospitals continue to face a significant embedded tax burden due to the inability to claim input tax credit (ITC) on infrastructure, equipment, and operational inputs. This directly impacts both hospital sustainability and patient affordability.

Key Recommendations

- **Input Tax Credit (ITC):**

Allow hospitals to claim ITC on construction, medical equipment, pharmaceuticals, consumables, and services to reduce cascading costs.

- **GST Rationalisation:**

Retain the 5% GST slab while enabling ITC to balance affordability and operational efficiency.

- **Support for Small Hospitals:**

Provide GST relief for hospitals with less than 50 beds to sustain services in semi-urban and rural areas.

- **Exemption for Associations:**

Grant GST exemption to not-for-profit healthcare associations on membership, training, and knowledge initiatives.

- **Corporate Insurance Exemption:**

Exempt GST on health insurance policies for healthcare workers to support workforce welfare.

Through these measures, AHPI–TN aims to improve cost efficiency, enhance sustainability, and support the broader goal of accessible and affordable healthcare delivery.

Interviewed by:

Ms. Gayathri Sandeep
Vice President, AHPI-TN

INTERVIEW WITH MS. B. BHARATHI REDDY

Managing Trustee
Vijaya group of Hospitals
Chennai

Q5.In healthcare, leaders face immense pressure. How have you managed to protect your own spirit and stay a "wonderful" person to work for after 40 years of handling the weight of a hospital's challenges?

Reflection:

I remind myself daily that hospitals are built on vulnerability. Patients come to us in their weakest moments. If I become hardened, the institution becomes hardened. I protect my spirit by staying close to patients. I still walk the wards. I still speak to families. Numbers and strategy matter, but human stories keep me grounded. Kindness is not softness. In healthcare, it is strength

Q6.On Technology and Connection You've seen healthcare move from manual systems to AI-driven diagnostics. As a seasoned leader, how do you ensure that technology enhances the human connection between doctor and patient, rather than getting in the way of it?

Reflection:

I have seen us move from handwritten case sheets to AI-assisted diagnostics. Technology is extraordinary — but it must remain a tool, not the centre.

Yet in the past we have had doctors who could just look at you, examine you and tell you what was wrong with you. Their knowledge and expertise of the human body surpassed all the diagnostics we have today. And I believe the reason for this is the human connection the doctors had with the patients those days.

To be continued in the next edition ...

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

3 YEARS MEMBERSHIP FEES		
1.	0 - 50 Beds	₹ 7,500 +GST
2.	51 - 100 Beds	₹15,000 +GST
3.	101 - 200 Beds	₹30,000 +GST
4.	More than 200 Beds	₹60,000 +GST

LIFE MEMBER SHIP FEES STRUCTURE		
1.	Less than 100 Beds	₹ 2,00,000 +GST
2.	101 - 200 Beds	₹ 3,00,000 +GST
3.	More than 200 Beds	₹ 5,00,000 +GST
4.	More than 2 Units	₹10,00,000 +GST

ACCOUNT DETAILS

Account Name: AHPI Tamilnadu
Account Number: 50200039785901
Bank Name: HDFC Bank
Branch Name: North Veli Street, Madurai
IFSC Code: HDFC0000123

Scan to Join Membership

Address for Correspondence
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