

Obituary

Major-General C. K. Lakshmanan

1898-1970

We regret to announce with profound sorrow the passing away of Major General C.K. Lakshmanan on the 3rd October 1970, at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, after a prolonged illness. The news of his death will be received with regret in each of the several areas in which he served so faithfully.

General Lakshmanan had been the Honorary Secretary of the Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh from 1958 to 1969 when he expressed a desire to be relieved of this post for reasons of health. The Governing Body of the Sangh at its meeting held in April 1969 placed on record its high appreciation of his long and meritorious services for about eleven years and brought him on to the Governing Body as its member so that his mature advice and experience were available to the Sangh. He had very close links with the Leprosy Control Programme of the Government of India and also with the work of other voluntary leprosy institutions. As director-General of Health Services and as ex-officio member of the Governing Body of the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute, Chingleput, from 1954 to 1958, he played a large part not only in the founding of this Institute but in its building up during its initial formative phases.

Born on 5th April 1898 at Cannanore in Kerala, General Lakshmanan was educated at Madras Christian College, Madras Medical College and St. Bartholomew's Medical College, and Hospital, London. He was commissioned in the Indian Medical Service on 21st October 1925 and was in military employment until 1935 and in civil employment under the Central Government from December 1935 till February 1958. After his retirement as Director-General of Health Services he took over as Secretary-General of the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Associa-

tion at the request of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, the then Union Health Minister of India and retired from this service in April 1969. He earned the following distinctions:

Coronation Medal	1937
War Medal	1939-45
India Service Medal	1939-45
Granted honorary rank of Major-General in the Army Medical Corps	19 June 1960
Honorary Surgeon to the President	5 May 1951 to 30 June 1958
Honorary Fellow of the American Public Health Association	1952
Centenary Medal of Swedish Red Cross	1965
Silver Jubilee Commemorative Medal of Pere Damien Leprosy Foundation	1965
Padam Bhushan	1967

Chief Delegate to the International Health Conference in New York, June-July 1946; Government of Indian representative to the Nutrition Conference at Singapore, May 1946; Special Consultant to UNICEF to assess Child Health needs in S.E. Asia-1948.

Vice-Chairman, Tuberculosis Association of India and Chairman of the New Delhi TB Centre Managing Committee; Vice-President, Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India; Member, Central Family Planning Council, Medical Committee of the Citizens Central Council, National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, Geneva Conventions Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Defence, Executive Committee of the Indian Ex-Services League and several All-India Social Welfare Organizations.

A prayer meeting was held in his house in New Delhi on the 7th October 1970. In the congregation were Shri K.K. Shah, the Union Minister of Health Family Planning, Works, Housing and Urban Development, many of his friends and colleagues, representatives of those in many walks of life

who knew him and respected him. Our deep sympathy goes to his widow and other members of the bereaved family. Mrs. Lakshmanan is a very noble and devoted wife and left no stone unturned in the care of her loving husband during his prolonged illness.

Mr. Shir Pyare Lall
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