

OUR PRIDE

ST POSITIVE

2 YOUNG WOMEN DOCTORS WHO CHOSE TO SERVE IN VILLAGES

SUPRIYA SHELAR
reporters@sakaaltimes.com

Pune: At a time when different governments are trying to attract medical professionals to serve in rural areas, here's a story of two young female doctors who volunteered to serve the rural masses instead of taking up cushy jobs in the city.

Meet Dr Ashwini Mahajan (BAMS), who graduated as a Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Dr Aarti Gorwadkar (MBBS), a graduate from the city-based B J Medical College. The duo, after convincing their parents about the dire need for doctors to serve the rural population, are now serving tribal communities.

Both were hugely impressed with Dr Abhay and Dr Rani Bang's 'Nirman' campaign that sowed the seeds of standing different by serving needy people.

Dr Ashwini, a 2011 alumnus of the Hadapsar-based Sumatibhai Shah Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, is currently working in Ganiyari near Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh. She completed her schooling from Jnana Prabodhini, Nigdi.

"Since childhood, I wanted to do something for society. After hearing about Dr



Dr Ashwini Mahajan

Rani Bang during my college days, I participated in 'Nirman batch 1' and I was inspired to serve the downtrodden," Ashwini said.

She worked for six months as joint resident doctor at her college. Then she came in contact with 'Jan Swasthya Sahayog' in Ganiyari that initiated 'Medic Friends Circle' to comprehensive rural health care.

"Currently I am working as medical officer there. Besides clinical work, I also contribute in the preparation of training material for



Dr Aarti Gorwadkar

health care workers. The health problems there are severe. Malnutrition, lack of basic facilities, cholera, leprosy and TB cases are widespread among the tribals," she added.

According to her, in urban areas, medicines are easily available but the real need is in the villages. Currently she is also preparing for the Tata Institute of Social Science's 'Masters in Public Health' course.

Similar is the story of Dr Aarti, who was part of 'Nirman batch 4'. After completing

ABOUT NIRMAN

■ Nirman is a youth initiative started in 2006 by Dr Abhay and Dr Rani Bang to identify, nurture and organise young change makers to solve various societal challenges. It is an educational process to train the youth to take up crucial issues and problems in society. It provides guidance, expertise and environment to inculcate self learning and encourages youth for social action.

her MBBS from B J Medical College, she selected Harsul tribal village in Tryambak taluka of her native district Nashik as her work place.

"Although one year service after graduation for medical students in rural area is compulsory, I continued to stay in the rural area and serve the villagers. The number of MBBS doctors is very less in Harsul. Quacks rule the roost there. The condition of primary health centres is improving slowly. So I feel, being a doctor, these people need me more than those in the metros," Aarti said.

Dr. Ashwini Mahajan, BAMS from S. S. Ayurved College, Hadapsar, is currently engaged as the Medical Officer at A/P Ganiyari, Near Vilaspur, Chhattisgarh State which is a remote Tribal Village. By taking inspiration from Dr Abhay Bang and Dr Rani Bang she has vowed to do Social Service for Tribal people in India in a locality deprived from basic Medical Services. Maharashtra Arogya Mandal founded by Late Dr Dadaso Gujar is sending such missionaries in the Medical field to serve the cause of the Institute through its unit Sumatibhai Shah Ayurved College.

HEARTY CONGRATS AND BEST WISHES TO YOUR SOCIAL SERVICE VENTURE, ASHWINI

PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME OF AYUSH, NEW DELHI

25th February to 1st March 2013

Participant :- Vd. S. A. Kore (Professor & HOD, Dravyaguna) and Co-ordinator – MET Cell.

RAJAYUCON 2013

(International Conference on Ayurved & Complementary Systems of Medicine.

23rd & 24th February

Organized by Mission Ayurved Rajkot

Participants :- 1] Dr K. D. Sathe (Professor & HOD, Kriya Sharir) Also presented Research paper.

2] Dr. G. H. Yeola (Reader, Kayachikitsa) – worked as Chair Person of a session.