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GAPIO TIMES

Global Association of Physicians of Indian Origin

Improving Health Worldwide

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Message From Dr. Sanku Rao, President , GAPIO



On behalf of Global Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (GAPIO), it gives me immense pleasure to invite all of you to the V Annual conference of GAPIO at Chandigarh. GAPIO was formed with an objective to bring together 1.2 million physicians of Indian origin around the world into one organization to harness tremendous collective power

and intellect for the purpose of improving healthcare around the world and India in particular. There are currently seven hundred million people in India with minimal or no access to healthcare and together we have the potential to make a positive impact in the lives of these individuals. The concept is being widely accepted among the doctors. Since the inception, GAPIO has grown exponentially with its presence across the world. I would like to congratulate you all to be a part of such Nobel cause.

Various successful projects were launched under GAPIO including "Total Health" Project at Aragonda village of Thavanampalle Mandal of Chittoor district, India, covering a population of 65,000 citizens. GAPIO Charitable clinic, Secunderabad, which cater to 2000 families living in a slum, to help the poor and the deserving to avail primary health care facilities free of cost. Swaasth India Web portal in collaboration with MOH Government of India, AAPI and BAPIO. This portal would act as matchmaking site where Government of India and State Governments can post their requirements and Indian Medical Diaspora can view and apply for the same.

This conference will bring together experts in various specialty fields to discuss the current challenges that doctors of Indian origin face globally. As a combined force they can make a huge impact on developing and improving healthcare sectors and make it affordable and accessible to the deprived and the needy.

I hope to see you and I look forward to meeting each and every one of you at Chandigarh.



Message From Dr. Anupam Sibal, Secretary General, GAPIO

I am delighted to invite the distinguished delegates to attend the V GAPIO Annual Conference at Chandigarh. I thank the organizing team that is working hard to ensure a successful conference.

During the last four years, GAPIO has moved at a steady pace to achieve its aims and objectives. With the dedicated support of members and leadership provided by the Executive Committee, GAPIO has achieved impressive growth. There has been a steady increase in membership not only in India but in all continents. GAPIO now has representation from 26 countries.

The Total Health Project at Aragonda village of Thavanampalle Mandal of Chittoor district, India, covering a population of 65,000 has been launched. Several other projects have been completed. GAPIO has been a partner in the Global Cancer Conclave organised in Chennai and the Future of Healthcare Conference organised in Delhi in 2014.

The "Swaasth India" concept developed jointly by GAPIO with AAPI, BAPIO, Ministry of Health, Government of India and various state governments was launched by Hon'ble Union Minister of Health, Government of India, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, at San Antonio, USA on 28th June 2014. This project serves as a match making site between requirements in India and expert doctors of Indian origin living outside India who are willing to provide expertise for community service, skill development and training, etc.

GAPIO is a partner in the Fifth International Conference on Transforming Healthcare with Information Technology and the Fourth International Congress on Patient Safety at Kolkata, India planned for 5th and 6th September, 2014.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of GAPIO, I would like to invite you to an exciting conference.

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Special Focus IV Annual Conference of GAPIO



Secretary General Report at Annual conference on 11th and 12th January 2014 Kolkata

Dr. Ramesh Mehta (Past Secretary General- GAPIO and current Vice-President)

Kolkata: India is facing an epidemic of non-communicable diseases like diabetes, heart disease and cancer, according to Dr. Prathap C Reddy, Chairman of Apollo Hospitals Group and founder president of Global Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (GAPIO).

It is estimated that by 2020, cardiovascular disease will be the cause of over 40 percent deaths in India as compared to 24 percent in 1990. By 2030, India will have the largest number of diabetic patients and will become the capital of diabetic patients in world. This is a dubious distinction that we do not need," Dr Reddy said while speaking at a two-day IV annual conference of GAPIO that began on January 11 here to discuss solutions in healthcare for improving health worldwide.

Addressing the delegates, Dr Amit Mitra, Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Commerce and Industry, Govt. of West Bengal, said he supported the idea of mass health insurance at a very low cost premium, availability of low cost generic medicines through public distribution system for public at large and role of telemedicine in providing healthcare to people in remote areas.

During the conference US-based gastroenterologist Dr Sanku Rao took over as President of GAPIO and his new team are: UK-based pediatrician and neonatologist Dr Ramesh Mehta as Vice President; Dr Anupam Sibal, pediatric gastroenterologist, hepatologist and group medical director of Apollo Hospitals, as Secretary General; Dr Nandakumar Jairam, Chairman, Columbia Asia Hospitals, as Joint Secretary; US-based allergist and immunologist Dr Sudhir Parikh as Treasurer and Dr. G Balreddy as authorized signatory.

Dr Rao informed the delegates that GAPIO had assisted in developing a web portal known as SwaasthIndia.com (www.swasthindia.gov.in) in collaboration with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India,

British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (BAPIO), UK and AAPI to provide essential healthcare services at various locations in India with the help of doctors from India and overseas.

"The website will act as a matchmaking portal where Indian medical diaspora can view and apply for these opportunities put up on this portal by various state governments," he said.

The conference was attended by over 300 delegates from India and overseas particularly from US, UK, Australia, Russia, Africa and Middle East. Renowned national and international faculty spoke at seven clinical sessions comprising of cardiac sciences, neurosciences, diabetes, gastroenterology and liver transplantation, robotics, nephrology/kidney transplantation and oncology.

At the conference Dr. Sandip Mukerjee - Dr B C Roy National Awardee, former honorary surgeon to the President of India and past president of Delhi State Chapter, Association of Surgeons of India and Dr Sudhir Parikh - Padama Shri awardee 2010, Elis Island Medal of honour (The highest civilian honour for US immigrants) and recipients of Pravasi Bhartiya Samman 2006 were honored with the GAPIO Lifetime Achievement Awards. GAPIO Service Excellence Award was given to 14 GAPIO members.



Special Focus IV Annual Conference of GAPIO



Lighting of Lamp by Dr. Amit Mitra Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Govt. of West Bengal



GAPIO Founder President addressing the delegates



Chief Guest Dr. Amit Mitra Hon'ble Minister of Finance with other dignitaries



GAPIO Founder President addressing media persons

IV Annual Conference-Kolkata



Speaker at IV Annual conference at Kolkata
Dr. Subash Gupta
Centre for Liver and Biliary Sciences
Apollo Hospitals, New Delhi

Liver transplant: Issues in India

Background: The incidence of carcinoma gall bladder is highest in North India. It is an aggressive malignancy with a dismal prognosis and almost all cases that present with surgical obstructive jaundice are unresectable. Surgery is

the only curative option when the disease is limited. However even when the disease is limited, right hepatic artery may be invaded and the treatment options at this stage would require preoperative biliary decompression and once the bilirubin is < 5 mg/dl, preoperative portal vein embolization of right portal vein would be needed to allow for safe remnant liver prior to surgery. Right trisegmentectomy can then be planned. However this long process is not only expensive but more importantly the disease progresses from limited disease at the initial presentation to disseminated disease. If the right hepatic artery + right portal vein can be resected and then reconstructed, it may be possible to do a limited liver resection and bile duct reconstruction by hepaticojejunostomy.

The "Swaasth India" Web Portal

GAPIO has assisted in creation of a web portal known as Swaasth India (www.swaasthindia.gov.in), in collaboration with MOHFW Government of India, BAPIO and AAPI, and was launched by Hon'ble Dr. Harsh Vardhan Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Government of India on 28th June at San Antonio Texas USA. This would provide essential healthcare services at various locations in India with the help of doctors from overseas and India. This portal would act as matchmaking site where Government of India and State Governments can post their requirements and Indian Medical Diaspora can view and apply for the same. Government of India has accorded the Swaasth India web portal as a Government of India official website.



Editorial: New Government-Vision on Healthcare



Prof. (Dr.) Bipin Batra Editor, GAPIO Times

There is a wave of hope and positivity in the country with the Prime Minister Mr. Modi's government taking over this quarter and emphasizing health as a thrust area. In the first major guidance announced through the Union Budget 2014-15, the government has identified free drug and diagnostic services as a pathway to move towards the aim of Health for All. The setting up of two National Institutes of Ageing as announced in the Union Budget shall further the agenda of providing high quality geriatric care and research initiatives that could foster aspirations for the elderly in India.

The announcement of 4 new AIIMS in underserved areas of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Vidarbha (Maharashtra) and Poorvanchal (Uttar Pradesh) shall take high quality secondary and tertiary care to the doorsteps of people of these regions and ease the load on hospitals of metro cities in the adjacent regions.

The strengthening of the States Drug Regulatory and Food Regulatory Systems addressed the key issue of quality and standardization in this crucial arena and shall help achieve the objective of providing high quality & safety of the food and drug products for the population at large. Another announcement highlighting the government's focus on Health for All and augmenting rural health care is the setting up of 15 Model Rural Health Research Centres addressing the health issues of rural population. The issues of lack of quality data about epidemiological trends and burden of disease shall be appropriately addressed by this initiative.

Establishing 12 new medical colleges in public sector shall increase the availability of affordable medical education and further improve the quality of medical services in the areas. Noticable here is the Hon'ble Health Minister's initiative to take up with the MCI the issue of restoration of approximately 6700 MBBS seats in government medical colleges for 2014 admission session.

The proposed initiatives reflect the strong commitment of the government to address the gap issues in Indian healthcare scenario. The landscape is encouraging for greater participation of the private sector to play an important role in the various initiatives ongoing and proposed.

The welcome approach of the government to allow overseas Indian doctors to visit India on locum and specific assignments besides cutting down delays for temporary registration shall encourage greater participation of overseas physicians of Indian origin for the cause of motherland. Besides the foregoing initiatives, the budgetary support for the existing programmes and institutions has either been maintained at same levels or enhanced in certain cases as the Six AIIMS institutions.

As per World Health Report, 2000: **The true measure of a nation's health systems performance is the achievement of three overall goals: good health, responsiveness to the expectations of the people and fairness of financial contributions.** The present Government has reaffirmed its commitment for achieving Health for all and the steps taken towards the same are laudable.

Meet Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Health Minister, Government of India



Dr Harsh Vardhan is an ENT surgeon by profession. He did his MBBS from GSVM Medical College, Kanpur and later went on to do MS with specialisation in ENT. In 1994, he launched Pulse Polio Programme in Delhi, which was then home to 10% of polio cases in India. On 2nd October, 1994 he organised the mass immunisation

of 1.2 million children. No immunisation programme in India before that had involved the marshalling of such awesome logistics. In 1997, under his bold leadership, the Delhi Prohibition of Smoking and Non-Smokers Health Protection Act was passed. The model of pulse polio created by Dr. Harsh Vardhan in 1994 was key to India achieving the Polio free status. His work on tobacco control is a model for other state governments to follow.

Dr Harsh Vardhan believes that a society does not become "modern" by just changing its superficial appearance. Progress and modernisation means adopting lifestyles that reflect collective maturity and vision. "You can't call yourself a superpower if Health for All, Universal Elementary Education and Environment Protection are mere slogans", he says.

He has been bestowed with various awards and honors like Director-General's Commendation Medal by World Health



Dr. Harsh Vardhan receiving Rotary International Polio Eradication Champion Awards from Sh. Atal Bihari Vijpayee

Organization (1998), Rotary International's Polio Eradication Champion Award (2001), Paul Harris Fellowship by Rotary International (twice), Lions International Service Award (1995), IMA President's Special Award of Appreciation (1994) IMA Special Award to Eminent Medical Men for Distinguished Achievement of Highest Order (1995 & 1996) and many others. He was named "Doctor of the last Decade" (Swastha Ratna) by the New Delhi branch of the Indian Medical Association in the year 2002, for being the "noblest medical campaigner of the last decade".

Dr Harsh Vardhan has taken over charge as Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare in new Government lead by Shri Narendra Modi Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.





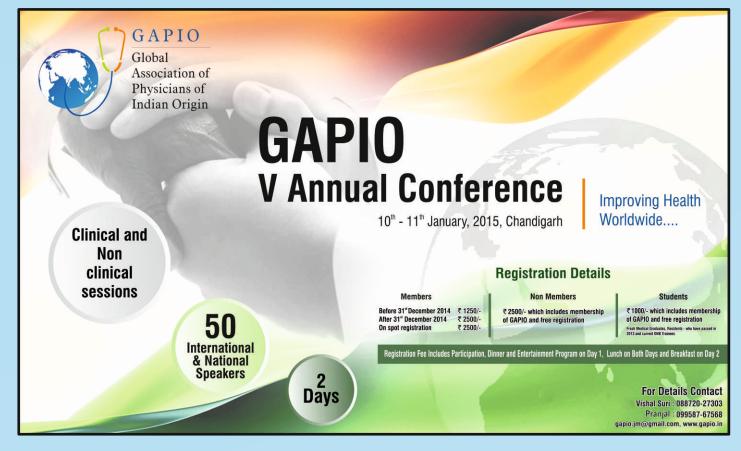
Good Wishes to the New GAPIO Team

Dr. Prathap C ReddyChairman Apollo Hospitals Group
Founder President of GAPIO

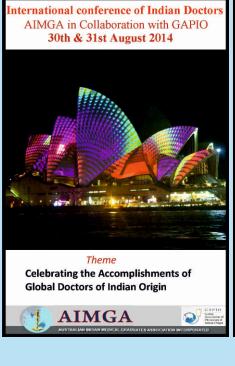
"My good wishes and support to

Dr. Sanku Rao - President, GAP90 and his new team members".

GAPIO Events







In addition to digniteries from Australia and overseas, the following speakers will grace the conference: 1) Prof Mukesh Haikerwal AO,FRACGP Chair of Council of World Medical Association 2) Prof Perminder Sachdev AM, Scientia professor of Neuropsychiatry university of NSW 3) Prof Nitin Verma, School of Medicine University of Tasmania 4) Dr Kunal Sarkar, President of the Indian Association of Cardiothoracic Surgeons 5) Surendra K Varma, MD, Associate Dean For Graduate Medical Education & Resident Alfairs 6) Dr.Subash Gupta, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, India 7) Padmshree Bafram Bhargava, All India Institute of Medical sciences New Delhi 8) Prof Gin Mahli MD, Professor of Psychiatry University of Sydney 9) Prof Valsa Eapen, Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 10) Dr Vijaya RajKumari, Eminent Kidney Transplant Surgeon from India. 11) Dr Surender Neravetla, Father and Daughter team of Cardiothoracic Surgeons 12) Prof Ashish Diwan, University of NSW and faculty of Engineering and IT, University of Sydney. Venue Scientia Building, Leighton Hall, UNSW, Kensington, Sydney Program 30 August 2014 — Full Day Conference (includes morning tea, Junch and afternoon tea) Registration Fees Early Bird (by 30 June 2014) \$300 for Delegates, and \$200 for Associates (Medical) S100 (Accompanying person, Students or Associate members- Non Medical) Registrations after 30th June 2014 \$400 Delegates, \$300 Associates, \$100 Non-Medical Associates

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Member's Corner

Dr. S C Garg MRCP Ludhiana Punjab

It is for kind information of all GAPIO Members that I was invited to SOUTH SUDAN -on two different occasions - in Sept-Oct 2012 and from 10th July-15th July 2013:

On both the occasions a contingent of 5-7 doctors were invited from India -for conducting free medical camp on charity basis.

Nile river which is perhaps the longest river in the world, adds to the beauty and fertility of the land and flows by the side of their Capital - JUBA - The camp was organized at AL - SABA HOSPITAL Juba.

As you know that medical services availability being very limited in this country and - they are on the look out to enhance the availability of healthcare services and training facilities.

Sudan Government may offer land to set up medical institutions.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION there is rather very active to organize events of community services and Healthcare camps.-through

Pictures of Camp on South Sudan





coordination with Ministry of Health. -State of Central Equatoria.

The spectrum of diseases encountered was –communicable diseases-deficiency diseases-Malaria etc.

State, Central Ministers and Indian Ambassador Shri Parmod Bajaj was kind enough to attend the functions organized by Indian association. I request the Governing Council of GAPIO to consider a project in Sudan.

GAPIO in News



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Executive Committee of GAPIO



Dr. Prathap C Reddy Founder President & Emeritus Advisor



Dr. Sanku S. Rao President



Dr. Ramesh Mehta Vice President



Dr. Anupam Sibal Secretary General



Dr. Nandakumar Jairam Joint Secretary



Dr. Sudhir Parikh Treasurer



Dr. G Balreddy Authorized Signatory



Dr. G Bodiwala Member



Dr. Shailja Chaturvedi Member



Dr. Om P Ganda Member



Dr. Nirmal Ganguly Member



Dr. Sukumar Mukherjee Member



Dr. Ramakanta Panda Member



Dr. Hemant Patel Member

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