

## ACTIVITY REPORT OF IMA FOR CMAAO

Indian Medical Association (IMA) is the largest represented organisation of doctors of modern system of medicine in India which looks after the interests of doctors as well as the well being of the community at large.

In pre independence era there were Associations of doctors at few places in India. But in one of the doctors' conferences it was discussed that all these Associations of all these doctors should continue functioning under one Association.

In 1928, the name Indian Medical Association was coined and since then the Indian Medical Association has traversed a long path and has contributed even during the freedom struggle.

Indian Medical Association, in the year 1946 helped in organisation of the World body of medical Associations across the globe, namely, World Medical Association (WMA) and thus became its Founder member. As a Member organisation of WMA, it has been and continues to play an important role in its deliberations. IMA hosted the III World Conference on Medical Education under the joint auspices of WMA and IMA in New Delhi in 1966 and in 2009 hosted WMA General Assembly and Dr. Ketan Desai was installed as WMA President in 2015. IMA has got the opportunity to lead CMAAO on three occasion. IMA will lead CMAAO as its President in 2019.

After independence till now it has reached to each and every part of India. We have more than three hundred thousand members spread over 32 states and Union Territories and have more than 1760 active local branches.

**Vision:** IMA is a democratic forum working to maintain dignity, honour and social security of the medical fraternity in the country to provide quality healthcare to each and every citizen of India thus maintaining the social and medical health of India and committed to preserve the autonomy of profession.

### **Objectives:**

- To promote and advance medical and allied sciences in all their different branches and to promote the improvement of public health and medical education in India
- To maintain the honour and dignity and to uphold the interest of the medical profession and to promote co-operation amongst the members thereof;
- To work for the abolition of compartmentalism in medical education, medical services and registration in the country and this to achieve equality among all members of the profession.

When it comes to updating the knowledge of its members and keeping them abreast of the latest technologies in health care we have academic wings for general practitioners, for specialists and for online courses we have wings called IMA College of General Practitioners IMA Academy of Medical Specialities and IMA AKN Sinha Institute respectively.

When thinking about how to improve the quality of health care and to improve the safety of patients' we have IMA Hospital Board of India which provides services related to Hospitals & Nursing Homes.

**Publications:**

We are regularly publishing Journals, News and other publications for general public in Hindi and English.

- Journal of Indian Medical Association, a monthly scientific Journal indexed in the Index Medicus
- Apka Swasthya, a monthly publication for the general public in Hindi, the national language of India
- Your Health, a monthly publication for the general public in English

IMA is sincerely looking after the interests of its members through social schemes like:-

- IMA National Society Security Scheme
- IMA National Professional Protection Scheme etc.

**Autonomy of Medical Profession:**

At various forums including World Medical Association, the autonomy of the profession has been paramount for running and updating the medical education and regulating health care. Somehow the Indian Medical Association is rather passing through a difficult time and trying to protect the autonomy of profession and has been struggling to really keep the Governments' proposals for destroying the autonomy of the profession & regulation of education & admission & awarding license to practice in abeyance.

The government has proposed a Bill in the Parliament by the name of National Medical Commission which is going to change the whole perspective of medical education and the delivery of health care in India. This NMC Bill which was introduced in 2017 is still lying in Parliament for clearance. But the strong resistance of Indian Medical Association is keeping this anti-poor, anti-people & anti-profession Bill away from the light of implementation. This Bill will not only destroy the autonomy and the medical profession as a whole but will also marginalise in finishing the autonomy of state medical councils and the representation of Health Universities as well. This Bill will also open the gates for other system of medicine to join the main stream of modern medicine. Thus will create two sets of public- one will be served by highly educated and other will be served by half baked doctors.

IMA has sensitized all the political parties and their leaders about the ill effects of this bill. Just to keep this NMC bill from becoming Central Act, to protect doctors and medical establishments from violence and to save community from getting treatment from half baked doctors IMA organised a Bharat Yatra for one month with the aim to "Connect with the society, Consolidate the fraternity". Many meetings and road shows were organized to reach out to the society, medical fraternity to highlight the issues of community and profession especially in relation to proposed NMC and violence against doctors how it affects the interests of public.

Along with the Bharat Yatra, IMA Cycle Yatra was conducted from the four corners of India. Cycle Rallies were conducted by doctors and their families in all branches of IMA on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

Both the Bharat Yatra and Cycle Yatra culminated in Delhi in a yet another historical event, "Doctors MAHA PANCHAYT" on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018 and around 25000 doctors gathered

from all over the India along with medical students and junior doctors to vent out their anguish regarding such uncalled for laws against the profession. And where it was decided unanimously and fight against the NMC Bill

**The IMA Medical Students' Network (MSN) launched IMA CHHATRA SHAKTI** with three components unleashing the Student Power from 7<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March from all parts of the country. IMA Chhatra Shakti is the intensive "Campus campaign" which reached out to all the medical colleges in the country to sensitize medical students against NMC and their whole hearted participation in the above "Doctors' Mahapanchayat" at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, Delhi on 25<sup>th</sup> March and "Chhatra Sansad" meaning "**(Medical) Students' Parliament**" at the same venue a day earlier. The event was a huge success, with more than 10,000 medical students from all over the country attending the above Parliament and condemning the NMC in one voice.

IMA Hospital Board of India also organised a meeting of all directors of HBI State chapters and they also resolved to fight against the National Medical Commission Bill. **IMA Hospital Board of India (IMA HBI) CONCLAVE 2018** was held at IMA Mumbai on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018 to discuss various issues related to Hospitals and Nursing Homes.

In continuation, to improve the Doctor-Patient relationship which is considered to be very important tool to prevent violence against profession, IMA organised an international seminar on redefining the medical ethics in clinical practice on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 at Kovalam, Kerala.

**Workshop on Doctor Patient Relationship and Violence on Doctors** was held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at New Delhi where discussion was held between the judiciary, the consumer, the media and administrators.

**Ayushman Bharat:** The Government of India has proposed a scheme for providing better healthcare to all the citizens of the country. However, IMA has gone through the proposed scheme and has submitted its various observations on the shortfalls of the scheme in practical implementation. A **Conclave on Ayushman Bharat Scheme** was held at IMA HQs on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2018 to finalise the above IMA observations. The same have been submitted to the Government of India by IMA.

As a part of its commitment towards Community Health, IMA HQs has recently signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central TB Division of the Ministry of Health & Family, Govt. of India** to eliminate Tuberculosis from the country under the IMA End TB Programme.

As a mark of great respect and acknowledgement for Dr B C Roy, the doyen of medical profession in the country, his birth and death anniversary on July 1<sup>st</sup> is celebrated every year as Doctor's Day. This year, it was decided to observe "**Safe Fraternity Week**" – 1<sup>st</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> **July 2018** as a part of IMA activities against Assault on members of medical profession". There was zero tolerance for violence against medical profession

#### **International Days celebrations in IMA:**

- **International Women's Day 2018 (8<sup>th</sup> March)** campaign Theme: Nearly all branches of IMA celebrated the International Women's Day and organized events on the theme: "Time

is Now: Rural and urban activists transforming women's lives". As a part of the activities of the IMA Women Doctors' Wing, **IMA National Women's Conclave** was held on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Chennai.

- **24<sup>th</sup> March was celebrated as 'IMA National Telemedicine Day'** in association with the Telemedicine Society of India and Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) with an aim to bridge the ever increasing Urban-Rural health divide.
- **World Hypertension Day** was observed on 17<sup>th</sup> May every year. The theme of this year is: "Know Your Blood Pressure Campaign".
- **World No Tobacco Day** observed every year on 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2018. The theme of this year is "Tobacco – a threat to development".
- **World Environment Day** was observed this year at National level through organization of World Environment Conference at New Delhi on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Theme of the Mega Event was "Go Green"

#### **IMA SBI Credit Card:**

For the benefit of members of the Association, IMA launched a co-branded IMA-SBI "Credit Card" in association with the State Bank of India (SBI) especially for IMA members on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at New Delhi with the theme – "**Importance of Financial Awareness for a doctor especially young ones and importance of generic innovations in a doctor's busy life**" linking it to exclusive care of doctors with inbuilt exclusive benefit for members with special coverage of indemnity insurance of Rs10 lac.

#### **IMA on the International Forum:**

IMA attended the **209<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting of WMA** held at Riga, Latvia from 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018. IMA has always been a prominent member of WMA and has participated in all its decisions etc.

To improve the Doctor-Patient Relationship and to understand the legal aspect of medicine in relation to patient care, IMA organized the following activities:

IMA organised a Seminar on "**Doctor-Patient Relationship and Violence on Doctors**" on **26<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at New Delhi** where luminaries from various sectors gathered.

A two day Seminar on "**Redefining medical ethics in the context of Clinical Practice in India**" on the **2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 at Kovalam, Kerala**. The seminar focused comprehensively on various aspects related to medical ethics and the need for a review with changing times. The main objective of the Seminar was to examine the most important ethical questions that arise in the day to day practice of medicine. The seminar also focused on public deliberations about the various ethical problems of practising doctors and health care institutions and the need to redefine ethics according to the changing times.

• "**National Medico Legal Conclave**" in Chennai (India) on **August 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018** at Chennai (India). This is in continuation of series of events to improve Doctor-Patient relationship and to decrease the incidences of violence against doctors & understand the legal aspect of patient care.

· “National Seminar on Communications & Attitude Skills for Health Professionals on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 Hyderabad (India) with the theme ‘BRIDGING THE LENGTHENING GAP BETWEEN DOCTORS AND PATIENTS to improve Doctor Patient Relationship so as to bridge the gap between doctors and patients and to decrease the incidences of violence.

**Steps towards Universal Health Coverage :** The Govt. of India has also thought about starting the Universal Health Coverage as it is important to achieve sustainable development goal. Ayushman Bharat Scheme is being launched in the country which will affect the 40% population of our country.

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