

INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

D.R. RAI*¹



Indian Medical Association (IMA) is the only representative, national voluntary organization of Doctors of Modern Scientific System of Medicine in India which looks after the interest of doctors as well as the well being of the community at large.

The founding fathers, way back in 1928, felt the need of a national organization of the Medical Profession. Before that, some members of the profession—a selected few—were members of the British Medical Association, which had opened branches in India to cater to the local needs. These stalwarts, ultimately succeeded in the formation of IMA and reached an agreement with the British Medical Association that they will have no branch in India and got mutually affiliated. This relationship continues till today.

IMA, in the year 1946, helped in organization of the world body, namely World Medical Association (WMA) and thus became its founder member. As an organization, IMA has been and continues to play an important role in its deliberations. It hosted the III World Conference on Medical Education under the joint auspices of WMA and IMA in New Delhi in 1966 and the WMA General Assembly in 2009 in New Delhi.

Today, IMA is a well established organization with its Headquarters in New Delhi. It has over 2 lacs doctors as its members through over 1,700 Local Branches spread all over the country.

IMA Activity Related to Autonomy of the Medical Profession

For effective working of any profession whether it be medicos, lawyers, chartered accountants or any other profession, its autonomy needs to be ensured for its enhancement and promotion.

Our Government had snatched the autonomy of the medical profession by dissolving the Medical Council of India, the autonomous body

of medical professionals governing the medical profession. The Government had attempted a back door entry of the Bureaucrats to control the entire medical profession of the country for all systems of medicine by the introduction of a National Council for Human Resources in Healthcare (NCHRH) as an umbrella body with sweeping powers over the entire medical and para-medical professionals of the country.

IMA used all the means and resources at hand to sensitize all the aggrieved parties in this and to convince the Parliamentary Committee looking into this matter that the proposed Council if against the very fabric of Democracy and the Federal nature of the system.

The efforts of the entire medical profession has bore fruit and I am pleased to inform that the Parliamentary Committee has rejected the proposal of NCHRH and sent the same back to the Government for necessary changes as pointed out to it by various stakeholders including IMA, before submitting it back again.

Indian Medical Professional Associations' Coalition Against Tuberculosis

Indian Medical Professional Associations' Coalition against Tuberculosis (IMPACT) was created with the purpose of promoting TB care and control in India.

IMA has partnered with Global Health Advocates India (GHA India), a non-governmental organization (NGO) that focuses on engaging all sections of society to fight diseases that disproportionately affect people living in poverty, and are also the leading causes of people living in poverty. In particular, Global Health Advocates India works towards the formulation and implementation of effective public policies to fight disease and ill health. IMA partnered with GHA India for a consultation meeting on TB control

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This article is based on a presentation made as the Report of Activities by each NMA at the 48th CMAAO Mid-term Council, Macau, China, on November 9, 2012.

in India in the month of August, 2012 at IMA Hq, New Delhi.

Project on Prevention & Treatment of Childhood Diarrhoea

A project on Prevention & Treatment of Childhood Diarrhoea supported by UNICEF is in process. The project covers 13 States and 44 Districts.

As a part of the project activity a National Advisory Group (NAG) has been formed. NAG meetings are being organised for finalizing the study material and the project outline. The project team has successfully conducted the National Training of Trainers Workshop in April, 2012 at Delhi-NCR, in which 30 Resource Persons were trained from the respective project districts.

Thirteen State Level Advocacy workshops and 37 district level workshops out of 44 district workshops have been completed by the end of September, 2012. These workshops have been successfully conducted in allotted districts of various states and around 2000 practitioners were trained.

Liaisons With International Bodies

IMA is actively participating in the activities related to the WMA. IMA attended the WMA Council session at Prague, Czechoslovakia in April, 2012 and WMA General Assembly at Bangkok, Thailand in October this year.

The undersigned attended a Global Appeal against Hansen's disease (Leprosy) organised by the Nippon Foundation at Sao Paolo, Rio-de-Janeiro, Brazil in the month of February this year.

We attended the National Conference of the Australian Medical Association in May, 2012 in Melbourne, Australia this year.

At the recently concluded Annual meeting of the Japan Medical Association on International Health by AMDA held at Okayama, Japan in November, 2012, Dr. D.R. Rai presented the Association's viewpoints on "**Emergency Preparedness—Establishing the system to accept foreign medical teams.**" The suggestions were widely appreciated by everybody.

INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INDIA

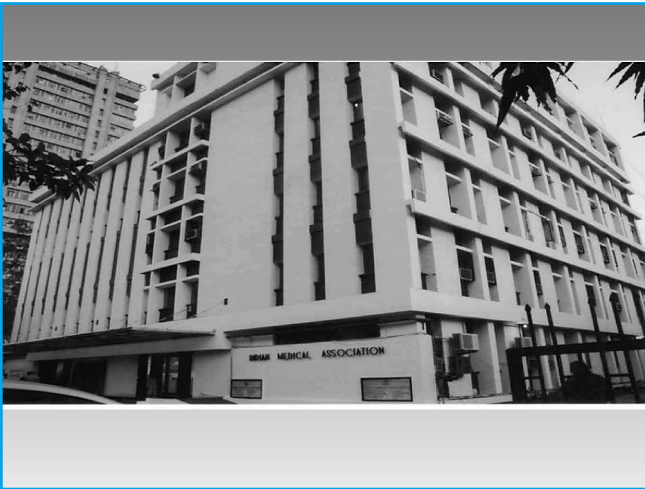


COUNTRY REPORT

DR. D.R. RAI
HONY. SECRETARY GENERAL, IMA

INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INDIA

- **Indian Medical Association (IMA), only representative, national voluntary organization of Doctors of Modern Scientific System of Medicine in India**
- **Founded way back in 1928**
- **Today, IMA is a well established organization with its Headquarters in New Delhi, the capital of the country and has its State/Terr. Branches in 31 States and over 2 lacs doctors as its members through over 1,700 Local Branches spread all over the country.**



IMA – DURING THE YEAR

SAFEGUARDING THE AUTONOMY OF OUR PROFESSION

- For effective working of any profession whether it be medicos, lawyers, chartered accountants or any other profession, its autonomy needs to be ensured for its enhancement and promotion.
- Indian Government dissolved the Medical Council of India, the autonomous body of medical professionals governing the medical profession
- It attempted a back door entry of the Bureaucrats by introduction of a National Council for Human Resources in Healthcare (NCHRH) as an umbrella body with sweeping powers over the entire medical and para-medical professionals of the country.

IMA – DURING THE YEAR

SAFEGUARDING THE AUTONOMY OF OUR PROFESSION

- IMA used all the means and resources at hand to sensitize all the aggrieved parties and to convince the Parliamentary Committee looking into this matter that the proposed Council is against the very fabric of Democracy and the Federal nature of the system.
- The efforts of the entire medical profession has bore fruit

The Parliamentary Committee rejected the Government's proposal of NCHRH

IMA – DURING THE YEAR

TAKING PART IN THE HEALTHCARE OF THE NATION CONTROLLING TUBERCULOSIS - GFATM PROJECT

- In the year 2007, IMA entered into an MoU with the Global Fund Against Tuberculosis, AIDS and Malaria (GFATM) through the Government of India for control of TB

INDICATORS	CUMULATIVE ACHIEVEMENT
<i>Number of Review cum workshop held at National and state Level:</i>	75
<i>Number Private Medical Practitioners reached through CME</i>	85,000
<i>No. of Private providers trained in DOTS using RNTCP Module for Private Practitioners and International Standard of Care Guidelines</i>	14,773
<i>Number of Issues of dedicated RNTCP-IMA Newsletter and IMA Journal published and distributed to all IMA members in 15 projects states and 1 UT</i>	31
<i>Number of IMA MEMBERS from the 15+1 project states/UT s who have signed an MoU under one of the RNTCP PPM schemes</i>	3,376
<i>No. of DOTS centre created are;</i>	4,291
<i>No. of DMCs approved in the project sites are:</i>	89



IMA – DURING THE YEAR

TAKING PART IN THE HEALTHCARE OF THE NATION CONTROLLING TUBERCULOSIS - IMPACT

- Indian Medical Professional Associations' Coalition against Tuberculosis (IMPACT) was created with the purpose of promoting TB care and control in India.
- The idea behind IMPACT is to encourage all professional medical Associations to work together nationally to control TB through evidence-based medicine thereby improving the availability and quality of TB control services in India.

IMA – DURING THE YEAR

TAKING PART IN THE HEALTHCARE OF THE NATION
CONTROLLING TUBERCULOSIS - IMPACT

IMPACT - Participating members

- Indian Medical Association
- National College of Chest Physicians
- Indian Chest Society
- Associations of Physicians of India
- Federation of Family Physicians of India
- Indian Academy of Pediatrics
- Indian Public Health Association
- Indian Assn of social and preventive Medicine
- Indian Assn of medical microbiologists
- All India Pathologists Assn

IMA – DURING THE YEAR

TAKING PART IN THE HEALTHCARE OF THE NATION
PROJECT ON PREVENTION & TREATMENT OF
CHILDHOOD DIARRHOEA

- A project supported by UNICEF is in process.
- Covering 13 States and 44 Districts.
- Medical practitioners being trained on revised diarrhoea control guidelines.
- Objective to promote use of ORS and Zinc for the treatment of diarrhoea and to advocate rational use of drugs for treatment



IMA – DURING THE YEAR

TAKING PART IN THE HEALTHCARE OF THE NATION
PROJECT ON PAIN MANAGEMENT

- Pain is the most common symptom of any illness
- Physicians' task is twofold: to find and treat the pain itself, whether or not the underlying cause is treatable
- Provide relief and reduce the suffering caused by pain.
- 250 CMEs will be conducted in selected districts all over India
- 103 CMEs have been successfully conducted in various States and more are to follow.



IMA – DURING THE YEAR

INTERNATIONAL LIAISONS

- We attended WMA Council session at Prague, Czechoslovakia on April 26-28, 2012 and WMA General Assembly at Bangkok, Thailand on October 10-13 this year.
- IMA is a signatory to Global Appeal against Hansen's disease (Leprosy) by the Nippon Foundation; Sao Paulo, Rio-de-Janeiro, Brazil -February this year.
- Attended National Conference of Australian Medical Association -May 25-27, 2012, Melbourne, Australia
- In annual meeting of Japan Medical Association on International Health at Okayama, Nov 3-4, 2012, Dr. D.R. Rai presented IMA's viewpoints on "Emergency Preparedness – Establishing the system to accept foreign medical teams." The suggestions were widely appreciated by everybody.