

President Speak...



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Dear Members,

The IPA Convention was just concluded in Chennai on February 11, 2018, and it was a very well attended and well organized one and half day event on the theme “Pharma Vision 2030; Planning the Future”. I would like to thank the IPA Tamilnadu State Branch, which organized the convention under the leadership of the chairman of LOC, Dr. S. Manivannan and his team comprising Mr. J. Jayaseelan, Mr. T. Satish and several others. This convention was held in the campus of Crescent Institute of Science and Technology and I would like to express my deep sense of to the management of the Crescent University, who extended all the necessary facilities to hold this event. The convention was inaugurated in the morning of Feb 10, in which the guest of honour, Prof. B. Suresh, President of the Pharmacy Council of India, elaborated on the key aspects of planning the future of the pharmacy profession, which forms the core of the “Pharma Vision 2030”. After the inauguration, the Eminent Pharmacist awardee for the year 2016, Dr. T. V. Narayana delivered the IPA President’s Special Oration on the topic “Pharma Vision 2030; Educational Perspectives”. In the evening, IPA held it’s CEC meeting, which was very well attended. The main proceedings of the CEC meeting had IPA building project update, a detailed discussion on the IPA financial status and fiscal control and a brief update on IPA activities and approval of new local branches and current membership status. The Tamilnadu State Branch submitted proposals for approval of two new local branches and that adds up to 4 new local branches, two in Tamilnadu and one each in the states of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. This trend is indicative of the popularity IPA is gaining as proposals to set up new branches are being received from all corners of the country, which is the hallmark of a national association that is active and attracting new members all the time. Overall it was a very well attended and very fruitful CEC meeting.

During the valedictory of the IPA Convention on February 11, the draft ‘Pharma Vision 2030’ was announced, which attempted to define what is expected to be achieved by 2030 for all five facets of the pharma profession, the industry, the education, the regulatory, the practice and

the research. The suggestions made by the chief guest Dr. S. R. Rao, Senior Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology during his address in the inauguration of the event and those of the Valedictory Function’s chief guest, Dr. V. K. Subburaj, Former Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers during his speech would also be incorporated into the draft, which would then be circulated to all stakeholders for obtaining their buy-in. Once finalized, this “Pharma Vision 2030” will be shared with all the concerned Ministries and Government Departments for making policies that are essential for realizing the ‘Pharma Vision 2030”

While speaking about the Pharma Vision and the Future Pharmacist, it is essential that we ensure that our country’s future national health policies would incorporate pharmaceutical care at the very core of the healthcare system and pharmacists as the healthcare providers without whose intervention the objectives of the health policies could not be achieved. Therefore, the future pharmacists are expected to perform highly sophisticated tasks with technical competence, Knowledge and skills that could only be developed by those who have been trained and exposed to all relevant advanced areas of pharmaceutical sciences and pharmacy practice and of course this is highly challenging. For achieving this, we need our educational institutes, our teaching faculty and our pharmacy students all embrace these challenges and do their very best for achieving these objectives. That is the only way that I can envisage, to thwart all attempts from various corners to devise policies, programmes and activities to downplay or even in some instances blatantly ignore the role and value of pharmacists in national healthcare. The current generation of pharmacy students are required to be mindful of these attempts and should prepare themselves to step up to the challenges that face them to become the future pharmacists rather than succumb to the circumstances and relegate themselves to the blame game.

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