

President Speak...



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Dear Members,

It is a matter of great privilege and honour to all the members of IPA to celebrate its 57th ‘National Pharmacy Week’ (NPW) all over India during November. The IPA started celebrating NPW since 1962 every year continuously and considered it as a flagship activity. Many State and Local Branches of IPA conduct various programmes to pharmacists and students in pharmacy colleges during NPW. The main purpose of the NPW is to make all stakeholders such as the patients, health care professionals, the local, state and central governments, the regulators and policymakers and students to become aware of the role of pharmacists, their expertise on medicines, about the law that medicines must be handled and dispensed only by registered pharmacists and no one else. The NPW showcases the potential of pharmacists and also the importance of pharmacists into the minds of all stakeholders. Accordingly, the theme chosen for NPW - 2018 is “**Pharmacists for a Healthy India**”. I request all the IPA

State and Local branches to celebrate the 57th NPW in a big way involving student, community and hospital pharmacies in campaigns and educate the targeted segment as per the NPW Activity Guide released by IPA.

It is a well-known fact that the exponential growth of pharmacy in recent past has expanded its role within the health care delivery system from a profession focusing on preparation and dispensing of medications to patients safety. Pharmacists started providing a wide range of patient-oriented services to maximize the medicine’s effectiveness and ensuring adherence to therapy with safe and responsible use of medicines and thus effectively contributing to the health of the people. As a part of NPW the community pharmacists should play a vital role by providing genuine information on drugs, usage and thereby minimizing and/or preventing medication errors and drug interactions. The Community and Hospital pharmacist should acquaint with the latest technologies like electronic prescribing and discharge, barcode medicine identification, automated dispensing, mobile application, adherence monitoring and telecare. Industrial Pharmacist should impose new innovative technologies like automation and robotics in the field of research for the design, development and testing of new medicines and treatments ensuring their safety and quality. The various regulatory bodies should protect the public from a number of health risks and provide numerous programs for public health and welfare.

It is interesting to know the latest developments taking place in FIP and its policy statements. New FIP report says: Need for quality medicines information to be included in national medicines policies. The implementation of medicines information will be a key to the safe and effective use of medicines and includes information on medication safety and Pharmacovigilance, rational prescribing and dispensing and health literacy.

IPA made its presence in recently held 27th Federation of Asian Pharmaceutical Associations (FAPA) Congress held at Philippine International Convention Center, Manila, Philippines during 24th - 27th October, 2018 with theme-“ Pharmacists for the Global Goals: Creating Value Beyond Health”. IPA congratulates newly elected President of FAPA, Mr. Dani Pratomo and his team for the term 2018-21. IPA also Congratulates Mrs. Manjari Gharat, Chairman of Community Pharmacy Division for receiving FAPA’s prestigious Ishidate award in community pharmacy division on 24th October, 2018 during the opening ceremony of the congress.

One of the major issues facing by the Indian pharmaceutical industry these days is the shortage of API and Bulk drugs that effected the production of several formulations. Most of our Pharma industries (nearly 65-70%) depend on imports from china for API and Bulk drugs due to cost effectiveness. The ICH guidelines and other factors made China industry to upgrade their units which resulted in hike of prices of API and bulk drugs and thus closure of some pharma industries in India. Government of India and the concerned Ministry should intervene to resolve the crisis and should encourage Indian bulk drugs industry with subsidies, tax exemption, loans, etc., and revolutionary changes in Pharma Policy to strengthen the Indian Pharma Industry.

With the support and cooperation of all the members, the IPA-Building work is progressing well. I earnestly request you all to come forward with your generous support and contribution to complete the dream project of IPA Building.

Please join your hands to fulfil the dream of IPA-Building

Dr. T. V. Narayana