

Laurels Brought to India...

Yes! At last India was blessed with the rare honor of hosting the 15th APCP – “Asia Pacific Congress of Pediatrics” in the year 2015. A successful bid was made by me with the help of Dr Naveen Thacker, Bharat Agarwal, Anand Vasudev and Rajeshwar Dayal at 14th APCP held at Kuching, Malaysia. This international conference attracts a special significance as it has come to India almost after 2 decades (8th APCP held in 1994). The competitors were Pakistan and Sri Lanka. We were really thrilled because at the previous occasion we had lost the bid at Shanghai to Malaysia. This Asia Pacific Congress is held every 3 years and Hyderabad is chosen as the hosting venue in India. Indeed it is a great pride for IAP and the nation as well.

As promised, the 1st IAPVAC course, the first of its kind, a replica of ADVAC was successfully conducted at Bangalore organized by Dr Jagdish Chinappa under the course directorship of Dr Naveen Thacker. Forty IAPians were rendered a grueling 40 hours online and 16 hours in physical training in the science of vaccinology by a distinguished invited faculty. The second such program is due on 15th and 16th December at New Delhi.

IAP's second International CME is due to be held at Sharjah on 12th and 13th October to be hosted by IAP's Emirates branch. A dozen faculties from India are going to address to an expected congregation of about 500 – 600 pediatricians from the region.

Come September/October and its election fever on its peak. I am delighted to inform you that marching ahead in the millennium technologies, in all probabilities the postal ballot election might be replaced with “e-version” election process; a project pioneered by the hard work of Dr Ramesh Goyal.

As promised and declared earlier, on the footsteps of huge success of National Asthma congress and National Vaccinology ToT, IAP is holding a National Pneumonia Congress on 17th and 18th November at Mumbai on “World Pneumonia Day”. This will be a humble attempt on the part of IAP inching towards achieving MDG-4. It will showcase the Govt., WHO and other world NGOs IAP's concerns towards Pneumonia—number 1 childhood killer in the world. Friends, IAP is a party and signatory to the WHO's call to MDG-4 in “child survival and reduction in child mortality”. IAP's “Mission Uday” a mega project, the brain child of President elect Dr CP Bansal is likely to be launched and get commissioned coinciding with it to be run throughout the Golden Jubilee year and thereafter for many years.

Till then I remain in the services of child care and child betterment

Rohit C Agrawal
President, Indian Academy of Pediatrics