



## President's Message



A lot of congratulations and Best wishes to each and every members of NIMA all over the country on the occasion of colorful festival of Happy Holi. Friends, last month two important events came in limelight related with us. First the National Health Policy draft published on govt's website and second Union Govt budget for Indian system of medicine. As like previous central governments once again policy makers remained unable to detect basic problems of country's Health and medical services. The emphasis is over the adaptation of ultra modern technologies and propagation of health services through PPP models. In this context few lines over Indian system of Medicine is given as formality without any certain roadmap for implementation thereof. As a blunder nowadays Indian system of medicine is being taken under AYUSH heading which itself is a misnomer and moreover Yoga, Naturopathy and Homeopathy are included in this heading. Naturally these systems are not capable and complete to be taken as a total healthcare system for implementation as national system. Also their scope, purview and problems are different and when drafting Health policy it must be taken into consideration that what are the real problems of our existing health systems. In fact at present system is badly suffering from scarcity of health personales specially Doctors. Allopathic doctors of the country are not available for the Government schemes and at Primary health centers. Whereas majority of population depend on these PHC and CHC for their day to day health and medical needs. Availability of doctors at these centers are in a hopeless condition. In spite of providing a lot of modern set-up at these centers priority should be given to posting of at least graduate doctors who can take care of common problems of major population of rural, remote and poods of our country. Unfortunately for state as well as central governments allopathic doctors are only option inspite of the fact that they are least interested in joining services at remote and rural areas. On the other hand a vast number of ISM graduates having knowledge and skill of facing all the problems at these centers and capable to manage them are not in purview of these policy makers. The only solution to take care of such problems is to hand over primary health care to Indian system of medicine cadre and all the hurdles in this way like legal incompetence should be removed. So National Integrated Medical Association strongly suggests and demands to make such policies and programs so that Indian system of Medicine's graduates can be utilized for the people of this country and development of ISM can be assured. Second striking issue is the recent allocations of fund in central budget for Ayush. We are observing that this trend to curtail monetary allocation is taking a shape all over the country. It seems that buraeucrats have succeeded to persuade our leaders that to expend money over ISM is in vain. It will prove suicidal and indicative that statements for upliftment of Ayurveda and other systems are only vocal assurance from PM. It is surprising to think that without increasing budget for ISM how this system will grow according to your own expectations. So our earnest request goes to Hon'ble Prime Minister and Finance Minister to do not curtail funds and enhance it by many folds so that these systems can be developed, made useful and modernize according to time.

- Dr. K. Tripathi

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