

Foreword



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It is indeed a matter of great prestige that the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of India is publishing this October, 2000 issue as a Special Golden Jubilee Anniversary Issue to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of both the Federation of Obstetric and Gynaecological Societies of India and the Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of India, as they were born as Twins.

It is a very happy coincidence that after my graduation in 1949, I became a member of the Bombay Obstetric and Gynaecological Society (now known as Mumbai Obst & Gyn Society), and a FOGSI member since its inception in 1950. I had the good fortune to serve FOGSI, as Hon. Secretary General, President and currently as Editor of the Journal. In 1975, as Associate Editor, I helped publish the Silver Jubilee Issue of our Journal.

After my association with FOGSI for 50 years, I consider it a privilege to publish this Special Golden Jubilee Anniversary Issue of our Journal to mark the completion of 50 glorious years of both FOGSI and its Journal.

During these 50 years, I have seen meteoric growth of FOGSI, from affiliation of 5 memberbodies to 144 memberbodies currently, with a total membership of about 15,500 members. The All India Obst & Gyn Congresses, which were held biannually, are being held annually since 1975. The number of delegates attending have grown from 200 to 3000, and duration of Congress from about 2 days to about 6 days.

FOGSI constituted 6 Committees in 1976, but today the number has grown to 27. The FOGSI Indian College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (FOGSI-ICOG) was constituted in 1984.

In the early years, our colleagues were more concerned with the safe confinement of the mother and mainly the curative aspect of Obst & Gyn patient. Over the years rapid advances have taken place. Now a days we treat the pregnant mother not as one patient, but as two patients—the mother and her fetus. In the early fifties, we talked of Family Planning, later on extended to Family Welfare, subsequently to Maternal and Child health care, then to Safe Motherhood and now a days we talk of Reproductive Health Care of Women and Children. We also lay more stress on preventive aspects besides the curative aspects. During the last five decades, many subspecialities and superspecialities have developed in the field of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive health care of women.

The Journal, FOGSI-ICOG and all the Committees are the real back bone of FOGSI. Various superspeciality workshops and training programmes, CME Programmes are held periodically throughout India and also as pre and post Congress features.

FOGSI is also being consulted from time to time by the Govt. of India, as well as some State Govts., on some important matters concerning women's health. Three years ago through the help of the Govt. of India, some State Govts., WHO, UNICEF, Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOFOG), UNFPA, etc., Workshops on "Reproductive Health Care for Women and Children" were held in many parts of our country under the auspices of FOGSI.

FOGSI had the honour of having its Past Presidents, Late Dr. V. N. Shirodkar as President of the Asian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in years 1962-1963, Dr. R. D. Pandit as President of the Asia and Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOFOG) in years 1983-1985, Late Dr. B. N. Purandare as President of International Federation of Gynaecology

and Obstetrics (FIGO) from years 1973-1976 and Dr. Shirish S. Sheth as President of FIGO from years 2000 to 2003.

My fond dream for FOGSI is that there should be an Obst & Gyn Society wherever a medical college is located, as well as at the District and Taluka level in our country and every allopathic doctor interested in the field of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and involved in the Reproductive Health Care of Women and Children should be enrolled as a member of FOGSI. Thus collectively FOGSI members can play a very important role in reducing the maternal, Neonatal, Perinatal and Infant mortality and morbidity and thus women and children will enjoy better health, which will be a great asset for the Nation.

Our Current FOGSI President Dr. Alokendu Chatterjee has given the appropriate slogan for FOGSI — “Women’s Health — Our Commitment” during this Golden Jubilee year of FOGSI. We all FOGSI members are sincerely committed to this Goal.

For this special issue, I am providing important information on the evolution and growth of FOGSI right

from its inception to date, with a list of All India Obstetric & Gynaecological Congresses, Presidents and other officebearers of FOGSI and the Journal from the available data.

I had requested some of my National and International Colleagues to contribute articles for this issue. I am extremely thankful to all my national and international colleagues for readily responding to my request and enriching this issue by contributing articles.

I hope FOGSI members will find this issue informative, with interesting Scientific content and that it will serve as a useful guide for future members in understanding the evolution of FOGSI.

Dr. Ramesh D. Pandit
Editor