

## Presidential Address



Life plays games and takes exams.

I am facing one today. The lady who was supposed to be here, is battling for life today – my mother Dr Prabha Malhotra. Her philosophy of life is: *Never waste any opportunity to tell someone you love them.* She sends her love to all of you.

Life is a dance  
has twists and turns,  
ups and downs,  
some spins dips  
and quick steps  
and God is the choreographer  
and to have a balance  
all ups and downs  
must be welcome

Shrimati Sheela Dixitji, Honorable Chief Minister of Delhi, Prof Dorothy Shaw, President of FIGO, Dr Pankaj Desai, Immediate Past President FOGSI, Dr. Prakash Trivedi, Dr. Suchitra Pandit and Dr. Hiralal Konar, Vice Presidents, FOGSI, Dr. C. N. Purandare, Hon. Sec. Gen. and President Elect FOGSI, Dr. P. K. Shah, Dy Sec. Gen, Dr. Nozer Sheriar, Treasurer, my Joint Sec. Dr. Anupam and Dr. Suneeta Mittal, President Association of

Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Delhi, other dignitaries on the dais and many of our past presidents, seniors and dignitaries off the dais, Dr. S. S. Trivedi, Dr. Manju Puri, Dr. Usha Gpta, Dr Sunita Malik and the full organizing committee of the 51st AICOG, our Pharma colleagues and my dear family, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls.

*Aap sab ko mera pyar bhara namaskar*

I would like to remember God and seek His blessings. Today, I stand here to share my thoughts with all of you, thus:

*Ek din bhi jee,  
magar tu Taj bankar jee,  
atal vishwas bankar jee,  
amar youg gaan bankar jee,*

This is indeed a moment where I am honored and humbled to step into the shoes of so many great FOGSIANS who have led this biggest professional organization of the world. Standing here in Delhi and taking charge today is indeed a proud moment for me.

### **Introducing Team**

Let me begin by introducing my team 2008; Dr Prakash Trivedi of Mumbai, Senior Vice President, Dr Suchitra

Pandit of Mumbai, 2nd Vice President, Dr. Hiralal Konar of Kolkata, Vice President, Dr. C.N. Purandare, Secretary Gen. and also the President Elect of 2009, Dr. P. K. Shah, Dy. Secretary General, Dr. Nozer Sheriar, Treasurer, Dr. Anupam Gupta, Joint Secretary, Dr. Behram Anklesaria, representatives to FIGO, Dr. M. N. Parikh and Dr. Adi Dastur, Editors of Journal, Dr. Shyam Desai, FOGSI representatives to AFOG and SAFOG, Dr. Usha Saraiya and Dr. Duru Shah, Chairperson and Vice Chairperson ICOG, Dr Pankaj Desai, Imm. Past President and of course my wife Dr. Jaideep Malhotra. *FOGSIANS this is your Team 2008. A combination of experience, skill and youth, which cares for Indian women and have pledged to Educate, Prevent and Eradicate female diseases and make the new Indian woman Literate and Healthier. You all have to help because only you can make a difference.*

### FOGSI & FOGSIANS : A Brand

Friends FOGSI is now 51 conferences old, an organization started by four or five stalwarts, now spreads over 200 member societies with over 22,000 members – many more are yet to be members – I urge all of you to motivate your gynaec colleagues to join FOGSI and be FOGSIANS, because we are the only Brand who will take care of the women of India. My appeal to all of you is to raise your morals and ethics to such a height that even God will ask you :-

*Khudi ko kar buland itna  
ki har takdir se pahale  
khuda bande se khud pucche,  
bata teri raja kya hai !*

If we 22,170 FOGSIANS pledge to care for women's health, there is no doubt that we will have a *new Indian woman literate and healthier.*

We have our symbols a **FOGSI Logo**, a **FOGSI Flag** and an inspirational song, '**Spirit of FOGSI**', penned for us by Javed Akhtar Bhai and sung by Alka Yagnik. Friends, be proud of these, use them with honor and pledge by these symbols, to be honest and caring – we will always be using the last year's theme FOGSI Cares.

On this occasion, I am pleased to announce that the FOGSI has introduced a flag, and all its member societies will be sent one. This effort of my predecessor Dr. Duru Shah sees light today – **the FOGSI Flag.**



### Indian Problems

I need not elaborate on our country's problems, we are all aware of them. However, seeing the sensex go up and down and seeing the Cars Expo and the private airlines, we have forgotten some very harsh facts. This is just a reminder, that in India women still die of child birth (we are at the bottom third rung of this ladder).

- ◆ 5,15,000 women die every year of pregnancy and childbirth related causes worldwide.
- ◆ 99% in developing countries. 1400 maternal deaths each day, 360 occurring in India alone.
- ◆ About one death per five minute due to pregnancy complications.
- ◆ MMR in India about 360-400 (upto 700 in some states)/100,000 births.
- ◆ 25% due to bleeding, 15% infections, 12% PIH and eclampsia, 8% obstructed labour and 13% unsafe abortions.
- ◆ 15% women get critically ill during pregnancy and will require medical care.
- ◆ ANC is availed by only 62% and only 15% deliver with medical help. Only 34% of births in our country are attended by skilled help.
- ◆ India spends a mere 0.9% of GDP on health. Only 4 countries in the world are worse than us.
- ◆ Women are an expendable commodity in our country.
- ◆ The neglected tragedy of MMR is not just a health problem, it is a question of women's human rights. It is a question of WEEEEEP.

We need to take drastic steps and action at both the social and the medical aspects of the problem of **WEEEEEP** (Women Education, Employment, Empowerment and Environmental Problems) and *only one person can make a difference you FOGSIAN.*

Let us come together and *make a new Indian Woman Literate and Healthier.*

Do join our endeavor towards this, do join the FOGSI–Bharat Jagruti Yatra from 1st Sept., 2008. Your mere presence will make a big difference. We have already done the first leg of this yatra from Leh to Srinagar and 66 brave FOGSIANS led by Dr. Behram, Dr. Shirish Pathwardhan, Dr. Bharti Dhorepatil, Dr. Maninder, Dr. Mala, Dr. Milind Shah and Dr. Shirin Venkat were at the rough roads of Leh’s Khardungla pass on cycles spreading the message of women’s health.

*What we need to do is FOGSI Social Responsibility (FSR)*

Here I remember what Prof. Fathallah said : “*Women are not dying because of disease we cannot treat. They are dying because societies have yet to make the decision that their lives are worth saving.*”

Dear friends, medically and skillwise we are very competent to take care of our women. What we need to do is take on this issue socially. We are the world’s best doctors, there is no doubt about that, but we just need to understand our social responsibility the FSR.

Our Government has many good programs for the women of India but these are being run through the various government networks of only about 1200 gynaecologists, this needs to be co-ordinated with public-private partnership: Government of India – FOGSI Partnership.

We from FOGSI offer our services to the government to run all the women related programmes and drives including RCH-II through us. Our 22,170 member network is ready to offer their free services for these programs any day, every day.

FOGSIANS, we are ready !

Please say loudly so that the nearby health ministry, parliament, 1 Race Course, President’s house, Nirman Bhawan, Planning commission, Finance Ministry, all of them hear and get our message right..

*Agar zindagi hai to khwab hai,  
khwab hai to manzile hai,  
manzile hai to raste hai*

*raste hai to mushkile hai,  
mushkile hai to housle hai,  
housle hai to vishwas hai,  
ki jeet hamari hai !*

I appeal to all of you to give just one hour, yes only one hour a day to Educate, Prevent & Eradicate.

Educate - Self  
- Colleagues  
- Society  
- Adolescent Girls

Prevent - Maternal deaths  
- Unsafe Abortions  
- Unwanted Pregnancies  
- Cancers

Eradicate - Anaemia  
- Unemployment  
- Illiteracy  
- Pollution

For this we FOGSIANS have to pledge to head for the villages, to *it the roots of India* –

*Chalo Gaon Chale*

My call to all of you is to join the FOGSI-Bharat-Jagruti Yatra : a month long FOGSI campaign to go to the villages to - Educate, Prevent and Eradicate. Friends do join this yatra of *Chalo Gaon Chale, because only you can make a difference.*

The Government of India, the state Governments, many NGOs, many social clubs are all willing to participate and join us in our efforts. Our Honorable President Shrimati Pratibha Patil has given her blessings to our yatra. Many pharma companies have come forward with support. They include. Astra Zeneca, Novelack, Kin Healthcare International, Sun Pharma, Charak, Tablet India, Otsira, Emcure etc. The members of a Bhagalpur Society have donated money.

The second leg of the yatra is being handled by Dr. Shirin Venkat with the help from Tata’s and Nehru Yuva Kendras and will be in the month of May in the North Eastern sector.

### **Female Feticide : Say NO**

At this stage, I appeal to all of you to respect the female gender and to abstain from sex selection techniques and selective feticide. I firmly believe none of the true FOGSIANS are indulging in this practice, it is the non qualified people who do this and unfortunately the PCPNDT act does not cover non qualified quacks.

However, if FOGSIANS do indulge in such practices banned by law, a strict action will be taken against them by FOGSI. Respect the Logo given by the Government on – *Beti bachavo* modified by us to :-

#### *Beti bachao, Beti Padhao*

Adopt a *Beti* as FOGSI's daughter. Wear the badge of say no to female feticide, given to you all here and be there at the public forum on 3rd Feb. Visit our *FOGSI Kal, Aaj aur Kal* stall and see, what 3 consecutive FOGSI presidents have tried to do for social upliftment. Sign your name and join the campaign.

### **FOGSI and ICOG**

FOGSI has its own college the ICOG which is doing great work in organising CMEs, scholarships, 6 month courses etc. I urge all of you who qualify to be a part of the college, it will improve your *Academic Brand Image*.

### **FOGSI and FIGO**

FOGSI is an important member of FIGO and this is evident today as the FIGO President, Prof Dorothy Shaw herself is here as our Guest of honor .

### **FOGSI and RCOG**

FOGSI now gets a session in all RCOG conferences and vice a versa. This gives you all exposure, to our international partnerships. We are pleased to have the RCOG represented here in this 51st AICOG.

### **FOGSI and AOFOG**

FOGSI has a good representation in the AOFOG Executive board. Prof. R. D. Pandit and Late Dr. D. K. Tank have been presidents. Dr. Alokendu, Vice President and now Dr. Josheph Kurian is Dy. Secretary General, myself the chairman of two committees and Dr. Shyam Desai our representative. We are a force to reckon within AOFOG. The efforts

of Dr. Jaydeep Tank for getting a consensus statement from AOFOG on safe abortions has paid off, a big achievement by any standards.

### **FOGSI and SAFOG**

SAFOG is a new organisation formed because the problems of SAFOG countries are different. Again FOGSI plays the role of a big brother in SAFOG.

So many of our SAFOG brothers and sisters from across the borders are here today. Friends from Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Srilanka are here to share their experiences. This 51st AICOG 2008 at New Delhi has given an opportunity to all SAFOG members to interact.

### **FOGSI and NGOs**

Today FOGSI is recognized by NGOs all over the world as a service provider for women health in India, thanks to the efforts of Dr. Shirish Seth, Dr. Sadhna Desai, Late Dr. D. K. Tank, Dr Alokendu Chatterjee, Dr Kamini Rao and many others.

With the NGOs we have been doing much work on the EMOC, safe abortions, Contraception and now, with UNICEF, on HIV-AIDS. FOGSI is now an International Brand and this is because of you FOGSIANS. Keep up the good work all of you *because only you can make a difference*.

### **FOGSI Publications**

We now have many FOGSI publications, compiled and edited by our own members and presented beautiful by Jaypee brothers. Some of these books are now sold world over and we are proud of our publications. Even Jeaffcoate's text book has been updated by FOGSI members.

### **FOGSI Journal**

Friends the Journal is getting better and better day by day, issue by issue. I am sure the "impact" factor of our journal will match the world's best. Do contribute your experiences and your research work in your own journal.

### **FOGSI Plans for 2008**

1. Theme Educate, Prevent, Eradicate

2. Logo FOGSI's daughter with seven Rainbow coloured ribbons



- Adolscnt Education
- Anemia
- Population and Fertility
- Promote Contraception and Safe Abortions
- Deliver Safely
- Detect Cancers and H.I.V.
- Plant Trees

3. Vice President's Theme Workshops with committees

- Dr. Prakash Trivedi : Ovulation Induction and PCOS workmats Minimal Access Vaginal Surgery Workshops
- Dr. Suchitra Pandit : Caesarean Section Skills live interactive workmats "Ankur" a Parents' Education Program
- Dr. Hiralal Konar : Preventive Oncology and HIV Screening-live workshops

4. FOGSI Yuva Conferences with PICSEP's workshop
- |       |   |          |                |
|-------|---|----------|----------------|
| North | - | Agra     | 16/17 August   |
| East  | - | Malda    | 29/30 November |
| West  | - |          |                |
| South | - | Thrissur |                |

5. FOGSI-Bharat Jagruti Yatra one month of *Chalo Gaon Chale* Movement from 1st Sept to 2nd October.

6. Zonal Fetal Medicine certification workshops with Prof Kypros Nicolaides of Fetal Medicine Foundation.

7. Ageing and Antiageing workmats with American aid

8. Formulation of Registeries (Maternal Mortality, ART and Birth Defects).

9. Publication of FOGSI Times a 2 monthly FOGSI newspaper

10. Publication of 6 FOGSI Focus (The first will be in your hands by March on FIBROIDS).

11. Annual National Satellite conference from West Zone (11th-12th Oct.)

12. Annual Presidents' conference on a Cruise : A memorable 3 day cruise is planned with family – The FOGSIAN Cruise where we will unleash a new

religion : FOGSIANISM.

13. FOGSI Ribbon campaign.

14. FOGSI Brand campaign. We need to project FOGSI as a brand and FOGSIANs as Brand Ambassadors for women's health in India.

15. Celebration of one FOGSI day every month and *eradicate anaemia everyday*. My call to all of you is to observe eradicate anemia everyday. Imagine if all 22,170 of us eradicate just 40-50 cases of anemia every day. Dear FOGSIANs! I appeal to you, to take up this challenge. The 12x12 anemia program will be extended to eradicate anemia every day and we are thankful to Emcure for supporting this cause.

### FOGSI Committees

FOGSI has its own beautiful office in Mumbai manned by a team of dedicated office staff headed by Ms. Bhandarkar. The academic issues of FOGSI are propogated throughout the country by 26 sub committees headed by an elected chairperson and 20 members.

Our 26 active committee chairpersons will be traveling to as many societies as possible conducting workshops and of course spreading the feeling of FOGSIANISM and FOGSI Branding for women's health. Feel free to contact them for any problem. They are just a phone call away from you.

Dr. Krishnendu Gupta, Dr. Jaydeep Tank, Dr. Suchitra Pandit, Dr. Pravin Patel, Dr. Milind Shah, Dr. Shirish Patwardhan, Dr. Deepika Deka, Dr. Jayanth Rath, Dr. Ashwini Bhalerao Gandhi, Dr. P C Mahapatra, Dr. Laxmi Shrikhande, Dr. Mandakini Megh, Dr. D K Pattanaik, Dr. Mala Arora, Dr. Nandita Palshetkar, Dr. P K Sekharan, Dr. Prakash Pawar, Dr. Rishma Dhillon Pai, Dr. Tushar Kar, Dr. Prakash Trivedi; Dr. Uday Thanawala, Dr. H P Pattnaik, Dr. Mandakini Parihar, Dr. Haresh U Doshi, Dr. M G Hiremath, Dr. Kanan Avinash Yelikar, Dr. Dilip Wakle, Dr. Manish Banker, Dr. Parag Biniewala, Dr. Shanta Kumari and Dr. Sheela Mane

### FOGSI Gyan Abhiyaans

All the Gyan programmes started by my predecessor will continue

*Gyan Prakashan, Publicaitons  
Akash Gyan : Satellite Programmes*

FOGSI-Gyan CD Rom : The first one I am pleased to present to you today compiled by Vice President Suchitra Pandit on Cesarean Section Skills. The second on ovulation induction by Prakash Trivedi will be in your hands in 3 months and the third on Gynaecology Cancer Screening will be presented by Hiralal Konar by September, 2008.

Gyan Yatras, as FOGSI workmats on the theme FOGSIAN Express, FOGSI Modern Technology Gyan will come to you as Fetal Medicine Workshops, Anti ageing workmats on Bioidentical hormones.

### **www.fogsi.org : our Website**

We have our own website and the ICOG website. We will try this year to make them more vibrant and interactive and we will try to videocast the plenary sessions of this 51st AICOG on our websites and next year I promise to PODCAST live the plenary sessions of the 52nd AICOG from Jaipur.

### **FOGSI and Research**

We have many research projects underway and now we even organize the Annual Research Conference (This year in Gurgaon in July). For individual members, FOGSI will help in getting ethics committee permission for doing research projects.

### **FOGSI Indemnity and FOGSI Social Security**

FOGSI's Indemnity Policy is now well subscribed and those of you who have not yet enrolled to this indemnity policy should do so; because, when you run into problems, FOGSI will care. The social security scheme of FOGSI is also a success and shows how much FOGSI cares for its members.

### **Appreciation**

My first thanks goes to my mother who gave birth to me and whose physical presence I miss the most here. Thank you mom for holding my hand when I tried to walk and when I fell, thank you for that little car and that little doll, thank you for telling me who God is, thank you for telling me that Family togetherness comes first. Thank you for everything. Get well soon. I need some more advise. I thank God for giving me such parents and such a family and such a wonderful wife Jaideep and two lovely children Neharika and

Keshav. I thank my family for being here with me tonight. Late Dr B N Purandare, Late Prof Das Gupta and Late Dr. Lahiri and Late Dr. Dawn and Late Dr. Nawal Kishore, Late Dr S D Khandwala and Late Dr. M. Y. Rawal who saw me in 1986 after my M.D. and to all of you who have guided me to this pedestal Dr. M. N. Parikh, Dr. Daftary, Dr. R. D. Pandit, Dr. Shirish Seth, Dr. U. R. Krishnan, Dr. Kusum Saxena, Dr. S. N. Mukherjee, Dr. Kamal Buckshee, Dr. Kusum Gupta, Dr. Palianappan, Dr. V. B. Pathwardhan, Prof. Rohit Bhatt, Dr. Rajan, Dr. Mehroo Hansotia, Dr. Sadhna Desai, Dr. Usha Saraiya, Dr. R. P. Soonawala, Dr. Chandrawati, Dr. Meera Agnihotri, Dr. Raj Baveja, Prof. Raja Ram, Prof. Padma Rao and many others you all have been a parent figures to me and of course my colleagues Dr. Shyam Desai, Dr. Behram, Dr. Pratap Kumar, Dr. Hrishikesh Pai, Dr. Dilip Dutta, Dr Pankaj, Dr. Kurian, Dr. Barun Sarkar, Dr. Arun Nagrath, Dr. R. N. Goel, Dr. Alka, Dr. Mandakini, Dr. Madhu, Dr. Ragini, Dr. Mitra, Dr. Maninder, Dr. Pranay, Dr. Jatin, Dr. Sanjay Gupte, Dr. Hema Diwakar, Dr. Harshad, Dr. Nozer, Dr P C Mahapatra, Dr H P Pattnaik, Dr Alokendu, Dr Poddar, Dr. Madhu Nagpal, Dr Kamal Gupta, Dr. P K Shah, Dr. Kuldeep Singh, Dr. Ashok Khurana, Dr. Alka Kriplani, Dr. Deepika Deka and many others whose names I may fail to mention here and all of you 22,170 members – a big thank you.

I end with this prayer and thoughts

*Koti-Koti*

*Kantho ne gaya maaka gaurav gan hai,  
Ek rahe hai ek rahenge, Bharat ki santan hai!  
samzayenge nadano ko, soya desh jagayenge  
nari swasthya ki jan chetna desh me failayenge !  
Koti-Koti Kantho ne gaya maaka ka gaurav gan hai,*

Jai FOGSI and Jai FOGSIANs

Jai Hind

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