



# Installation Speech at 38th Annual National Conference of ISOPARB, 2023, Meerut on 29th April 2023

Respected Seniors and Dear Friends,

I am deeply humbled and, at the same time, honored to have the privilege to be installed as the 24th President of our esteemed ISOPARB organization in the **38th Annual National Conference of ISOPARB** organised under the chairperson Dr Bharti Maheswari with the supervision of Madam Padmashri Usha Sharma. Taking on this responsibility is both a humbling experience and a great honor. I am grateful for this opportunity to lead from Meerut, a city renowned as the Sports Capital of India and as the starting point of the historic 1857 Rebellion against the British East India Company.

The path ahead is undoubtedly challenging, especially given the impressive legacy left by my predecessors who have made monumental contributions. Stepping into this role when my predecessors have accomplished so much is indeed a formidable task, as expectations are naturally elevated.

### My Journey within ISOPARB

My Journey within ISOPARB began in 1994, when I became a member at the behest of Dr. Gita Ganguly Mukherjee. My memories transport me back to the 11th Annual National Conference of ISOPARB in February 1995, held in Kolkata. Since then, I have been fortunate to be guided by the leaders such as Dr. S N Tripathy, Dr. Dr. Sudip Chakravarty, Dr. Manju Gita Mishra, and Dr. Usha Sharma. I embarked on my ISOPARB journey as a contributor to the ISOPARB journal, and over the years, I progressed to become its Editor-in-Chief, a role I held for seven years. This journey was marked by my unwavering commitment to uplift the journal's standing and reputation.

Throughout, I traversed the length and breadth of our nation, participating actively in ISOPARB meetings, scientific seminars, CME programs, and public awareness initiatives, assuming various roles such as delegate, invited speaker, faculty member, and orator.

### Our Team

Teamwork forms the foundation of our endeavors, a truth we must remember unfailingly. In this regard, I consider myself incredibly fortunate to lead a dedicated team during my upcoming tenure. This team includes Dr. Pragya Mishra Chaudhury as the Secretary-General, Dr. Narayan Jana as the President-Elect, and Dr. Gangadhar Sahoo as the Immediate Past President. The Vice Presidents, Dr. Sukumar Barik, Dr. Meena Samant, Dr. Mala Shrivastav, and Dr. Rooma Sinha, along with Treasurer Dr. Abha Rani Sinha, Communicator Dr. Amita Sinha, Joint Secretary Dr. Tulika Jha, and Editor-in-Chief Dr. Ramprasad Dey, form an incredibly dynamic and knowledgeable ensemble. Furthermore, four Committee Chairpersons, Dr. Laxmi Shikhande, Dr. Shobha N Gudi, Dr. Ruchika Garg, and Dr. Sheela Mane, bolster the team's capabilities. This energetic group is supported by an active cohort of eleven executive members. As new members join the Management Committee, I extend a warm welcome and also seek the continued support of our veteran team members.

### Our Organization's Roots

Our Organization, ISOPARB, was birthed in 1978 in Patna with a noble vision – to advocate peace, happiness, and well-being for mothers, children, and families irrespective of their socio-economic status.

Dr. Mrs. Kamala Achari, the founder President, led the charge, supported by visionary minds like Dr. G. Achari, Dr. Tarun Banerjee, Dr. Kamala Dhall, Dr. G.I. Dhall, Dr. Ajit C. Mehta, Dr. S. Dasgupta, Dr. B. Palaniappan, Dr. K.M. Gun, Dr. N.N. Roy Chowdhary, Dr. Jagdishwari Mishra, Dr. Nirmala Saxena, and Dr. Gita Ganguly Mukherjee. These stalwarts nurtured the society, guiding it from infancy to maturity through their dedicated efforts.

### **My Illustrious Predecessors**

I humbly bow to my predecessors, illustrious leaders who laid the strong foundation of ISOPARB:

Late Dr. Kamala Achari, Patna (1978-81)  
Late Dr. S Dasgupta, Jamshedpur (1981-83)  
Late Dr. Subhdra Nair, Trivandrum (1983-85)  
Late Dr. Malti Rohatgi, Patna (1985-87)  
Late Dr. N N Roy Chowdhary, Kolkata (1987-88)  
Dr. Kamala Dhall, Chandigarh (1988-90)  
Dr. Ajit C. Mehta, Mumbai (1990-92)  
Dr. Rohit V. Bhatt, Baroda (1992-94)  
Dr. Kamal Buckshee, Delhi (1994-96)  
Dr. Jagdishwari Mishra (1996-98)  
Dr. Gita Ganguly Mukherjee, Kolkata (1998-2000)  
Dr. Vandana Walvekar, Mumbai (2000-2002)  
Dr. Nirmala Saxena, Patna (2002-2004)  
Dr. A. K. Debdas, Jamshedpur (2004-2006)  
Dr. Susheelamma, Devangere (2006-2008)  
Dr. D. Pushpalatha, Hyderabad (2008-2010)  
Dr. Mrs. S. N. Tripathy, Cuttack (2010-2012)  
Dr. Sudip Chakravorti, Kolkata (2012-2014)  
Dr. Manju Gita Mishra, Patna (2014-2016)  
Dr. Milind R. Shah, Solapur (2016-2018)  
Dr. Suchitra Pandit, Mumbai (2018-2020)  
Dr. Usha Sharma, Patna (2020-2022)  
Dr. Gangadhar Sahoo, Odisha (2022-2023)

### **The Backbone of society: Secretary Generals**

I hold in deep reverence the vital role played by Secretary Generals in nurturing the backbone of our society:

Prof Mrs. D. Singh, Patna (1978-79)  
Prof Mrs. Malti Rohatgi, Patna (1979-80)  
Prof R L Wakhloo, Jammu (1980-81)  
Prof Mrs. Kamala Acharya, Patna (1981-92)  
Prof Jagadiswari Mishra, Patna (1992-96)  
Prof Nirmala Saxena, Patna (1996-2002)  
Prof Manju Gita Mishra, Patna (2002-2008)

Dr. Usha Sharma, Patna (2008-2012)  
Dr. Rita Dayal, Patna (2014-2016)  
Dr. Meena Samant, Patna (2016-2021)  
Dr. Pragya Mishra Choudhury, Patna (2022 – )

We are very shocked for untimed demise of Secretary General Dr Rita Dayal. I pay my tribute to her.

### **The Voice of ISOPARB: Our Journal**

Our journal, the Indian Journal of Perinatology and Reproductive Biology, is the vessel through which our voices resonate. Journal is published from Kolkata since the very beginning. I acknowledge the distinguished individuals who have steered the journal as Editor in Chief:

Dr. Tarun Banerjee, Kolkata (1978-1983)  
Dr. N N Roy Choudhury, Kolkata (1983-86)  
Dr. K M Gun, Kolkata (1986-88 & 1996-2000)  
Dr. MM Jassawala, Mumbai (1988-90)  
Dr. G I Dhall, Chandigarh (1990-92)  
Dr. Geeta Ganguli Mukherjee, Kolkata (2000-2004)  
Dr. Sudip Chakraborty, Kolkata (2005-2009)  
Dr. Arup Kumar Majhi (2010-2016)  
Dr. Hiralal Konar, Kolkata (2017-2021)  
Dr. Ramprasad De, Kolkata (2022-)

Due to dearth of resources, both financial and availability of good article journal could not be published regularly. I must acknowledge our seniors like Dr Manju Gita Mishra, Dr S N Tripathy, Dr Usha Sharma, Dr Gangadhar Sahoo, Dr Gita Ganguly Mukherjee and Dr Sudip Chakravorty who had helped a lot to raise the funds during my tenure. With a strong drive and determination, I was able to get ISSN number, RNI number and PAN number in 2010-2011. Now, Editor in chief, Dr Ramprasad De who is a very dynamic and hardworking is trying his best for indexing in multiple indexing organisation, to collect good quality articles and regularisation of all issues. But he needs support from our esteem members for raising the fund. I appeal to all of you.

### **A Leap Forward: Chapter Concept Introduction**

The introduction of the Chapter concept marked a turning point in ISOPARB's history. Transitioning from a zonal to a chapter concept has revolutionized ISOPARB's expansion across the nation. My gratitude extends to the visionary leaders who facilitated this transition. I must acknowledge the invaluable role

played by Dr. Sudip Chakraborty, the then President, in implementing this innovation in 2012.

### **Constitutional amendments**

Under the leadership of Dr. Usha Sharma, ISOPARB underwent constitutional amendments (2021-2022) that significantly enhanced our organization's functioning.

### **Celebrating International Ties: FAOPS**

FAOPS (The Federation of Asia and Oceania Perinatal Societies) is an international organization devoted to advancing perinatal science and care. Our heartfelt congratulations go to Dr. Milind Shah, now Secretary General of FAOPS, for this remarkable achievement.

### **My Leadership**

Leadership is a sensitive endeavour, requiring a blend of affection and guidance. In my Presidentship journey, I've drawn inspiration from the words of JRD Tata: "To be a leader, you have got to lead human beings with affection."

### **Perinatal Health and demography - present scenario**

Our nation's perinatal landscape presents challenges, with maternal mortality ratio, stillbirths, and neonatal deaths still prevalent. While India has made significant strides in reducing maternal mortality, we must acknowledge that we remain distant from developed nations (97/100,000 live births in 2018-20) and some neighboring South Asian countries. The unfortunate truth is that many mothers succumb to preventable obstetric complications, such as hypertensive disorders, hemorrhage, and sepsis. Anemia continues to play a significant role in these outcomes. Tragically, most of these deaths are avoidable.

India has become the world's most populous nation overtaking China recently (142.86 crore against China's 142.57 crore in April 2023), and continues to grapple with challenges. NFHS 5 data (2019-2021) reveals a lack of substantial progress in contraceptive prevalence (modern methods at 56.6%) and fertility rate reduction (from 2.2 to 2.0). Stillbirths (3/1000 total births, 2019) and neonatal mortality rate (22/1000 live births, 2019) remain alarmingly high. Adolescent marriages and teen pregnancies persist (NFHS 5) without substantial mitigation. According

to NFHS-5, 23.3% women surveyed got married before attaining the legal age of 18 years. Teenage pregnancies have come down from 7.9% to 6.8% in NFHS-5(2019-2021) data. In India, institutional births have increased 79% in NFHS 4 (2015-2016) to 89% in NFHS 5 (2019-2021). In rural areas institution birth is around 87% and in urban areas it is 94%. In Kerala, almost 100% of the births were institutional but in few states institutional birth is far low (Nagaland only 46%).

### **Theme of the Year**

#### **Perinatal Health - Commitment to Care**

This year's theme, "Perinatal Health - Commitment to Care," resonates with the very essence of ISOPARB's mission. ISOPARB is the organisation which concentrate these issues. Our organization has the potential to make a significant impact on these challenges if we unite with a shared dedication. Target of sustainable development goal (SDG3) to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births and to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births by 2030 is possible with commitment.

#### **Setting Objectives**

In my tenure, I have outlined several key objectives:

Enlarge our membership through targeted efforts, leveraging our journal's influence.

Expand the number of chapters.

Strengthen our academic endeavours, public awareness initiatives, social contributions, and collaborations with other organizations.

Engage and empower young members.

Facilitate an array of teaching programs and workshops for postgraduates.

Elevate ISOPARB's visibility at the governmental level and foster partnerships with the Government of India.

#### **Focus Areas and Initiatives**

Our focus areas include:

Labor and obstetric skill workshops.

Addressing ante-partum hemorrhage, hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, and postpartum hemorrhage.

Conducting caesarean section workshops.

Enhancing critical care obstetrics.

Emphasizing neonatal resuscitation.

Championing Implementation and Dreaming Big

As Walt Disney aptly noted, “If you can dream it, you can do it.”

ISOPARB, having burgeoned into a formidable organization encompassing 39 chapters and nearly 3200 members, is driven by this very principle. I extend my heartfelt request to our four Vice Presidents to synergize with their respective city chapters, each contributing to the annual plan. It is heartening to witness their proactive approach. Four Committee Chairpersons have similarly charted their strategies, while several city chapters have already communicated their plans.

### **Anticipating Milestone Events**

The horizon is adorned with significant events:

The mid-term ISOPARB conference is slated for Kolkata on September 9th and 10th, 2023 by Kolkata ISOPARB chapter.

The Gorakhpur ISOPARB chapter will host the inaugural Yuva National ISOPARB conference on November 25th and 26th, 2023.

The Raipur ISOPARB chapter has agreed to organise 39th Annual National Conference of ISOPARB, 2024.

I convey my best wishes for the grand success of the events.

### **Gratitude**

Gratitude permeates my heart, extending to all ISOPARBians, especially my colleagues from the Kolkata chapter, whose support has been invaluable on my journey. None of this would have been possible without the unwavering backing of my wife, Swapna, and son, Debanjan. I also pay tribute to my teacher, Prof. B N Chakraborty, who left us last year.

As I stand before you, I seek your blessings and well-wishes. Unity, collaboration, and shared effort fuel our success, and as Henry Ford put it, “Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”

May ISOPARB flourish!

LONG LIVE ISOPARB

Thanking you all,

**Dr Arup Kumar Majhi**

*President, ISOPARB*

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**From Pan India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Asia Pacific Region, United Kingdom & Overseas**

- High Quality Research Papers/ Original Articles
- Review Articles
- Commentaries
- Letters to Editor
- Observational Studies covering General Obstetrics, Gynecology, Anesthesiology, Internal Medicine, Perinatology, Neonatology & Reproductive Biology
- Papers are invited from all the disciplines which have relevance to practice and policy
- Case reports of importance and papers on basic science are also accepted with these subjects.