

## Presidential Speech at Varanasi

*Chief Guest:*

**Hon'ble Padma Shree Dr. K.K. Tripath**

*Guest of honour:*

**Dr. S.N. Tripathi**

*Organizing Chairpersons:*

**Dr. L.K. Pandey & Dr. Sulekha Pandey**

*President Elect:*

**Dr. Gangadhar Sahoo**

*Secretary General:*

**Dr. Meena Samant**

*In-coming Secretary General:*

**Dr. Pragya Mishra Choudhary**

*Organizing Secretary:*

**Dr. Neelam Ohri**

Past Presidents, Senior Members of ISOPARB and Friends

First of all, I thank the almighty by whose blessings we have assembled here for the 37th National Conference of ISOPARB in the holy city of Varanasi.

I congratulate the two organizing chairpersons **Dr. L.K. Pandey** and **Dr. Sulekha Pandey** with their dynamic organizing secretary **Dr. Neelam Ohri** along with their excellent organizing team who have put commendable efforts to organize this grand conference.

The theme of this conference is **Respectful Maternity Care – Fighting the Odds**. The conference aims to highlight the difficulties encountered in providing **Respectful**

**Maternity Care** and discuss the means and ways to overcome them.

Over 90 global organizations including **The International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO)** and **The International Confederation of Midwives (ICM)** endorsed a statement by **WHO** in 2014 calling government, health care institutions and health care providers to prevent and eliminate, disrespect and abuse during facility-based childbirth. The aim is to ensure that every woman has the right to the highest attainable standard of health which includes the right to dignified, respectful healthcare.

ISOPARB was formed in 1978 by stalwarts of our country Late Prof. G. Achari, Late Dr. Kamla Achari from Patna and Late Dr. Tarun Banerjee from Kolkata with a handful of members. My senior predecessors had nurtured ISOPARB with their dedicated work in the past.

I took charge on 4th of October, 2020 in covid era not sure what we can achieve for ISOPARB with all the limitations posed by covid restrictions, but to my delight all ISOPARBBIANS were ready to join hands with me for the growth and progress of ISOPARB. As a result, today we have 2800 members and 28 registered city chapters, few more in the formation. This was only possible because of joint effort of all ISOPARBBIANS. At this juncture I recall the quote of Henry Ford "Coming Together is Beginning, Keeping Together is Progress and

Working Together is Success”. I congratulate all the ISOPARBIANS for the progress and new momentum of ISOPARB. Our theme during tenure “**Say no to birth defects**” for a future healthier India has been popularized in the country by the 4 zonal webinars. Our 4 vice presidents Dr. Sulekha Pandey, Dr. Shahikala Kola, Dr. Saswati Sanyal Choudhary and Dr. Parul Kotdawala were instrumental for these webinars thank you for your excellent works. These webinars have provided insight for prevention, early diagnosis, appropriate timely treatment with latest technologies which will help in reducing the incidence of babies born with birth defects in India.

After about 19 years the ISOPARB constitution has been rewritten with addition of various recommendations of amendments in the interim period of 2001 to 2021.

I thank all the members of constitution committee for their valuable suggestions and their cooperation in rewriting the constitution.

Dr. Meena Samant, the worthy and dynamic secretary general thank you for being always with me.

Thank you Pragya for being sincere treasurer.

I thank all the office bearers of ISOPARB and of city chapters who have worked tirelessly to bring this momentum which I hope will continue in coming years.

Dr. Ranjana Sinha a talented and committed joint secretary thank you for your dedicated excellent work. I thank Dr. Supriya Jaiswal the sincere communicator and Dr. Amita Sinha for their good work. I thank all the ISOPARBIANS from the bottom of my heart for the cooperation and whole hearted support during my tenure. My best wishes to the incoming president Dr. Gangadhar Sahoo and the secretary general Dr. Pragya Mishra Choudhary along with all the new office bearers for a fruitful tenure.

I hope all the faculties and delegates will enjoy the scientific sessions have spiritual experience along with warm hospitality of Varanasi people and their famous local cuisine. To sum up a wonderful Varanasi conference.

Jai Hind.

Long Live ISOPARB.  
**DR. USHA SHARMA**  
President ISOPARB [2020-22]