



"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."

Martin Luther King, Jr.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of BAPIO may I extend Diwali and Ramadan greetings to our Hindu and Muslim colleagues!

It was a great privilege for me to be invited to meet the Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh at a reception organised by the Indian High Commissioner H E Shri Kamlesh Sharma. I was able to introduce BAPIO's work to the PM. I also had opportunity to discuss the PFT issue with the accompanying minister of state for External Affairs Mr. Anand Sharma. Earlier we had briefed the official of Indian High Commission and I was assured by the Minister as well as the High Commissioner that the visa issue would be raised during the bilateral talks between the Prime Ministers. I think it is a significant achievement by BAPIO.



Recently by chance I met Lord Warner at a reception and reminded him that we are still waiting to hear about follow up actions from DH. The date for hearing of the Judicial Review is going to be the 7th and 8th of December 06! Well, at least we expect the judgement before the MMC application dead lines. WE hope that the out come may result in the judge instructing the Government to



withdraw the legislation and go through the process of proper consultation. HSMP hopefully should be granted the equal status.

We had a very useful meeting with Prof. Graham Catto the GMC President and Mr. Paul Philip, fitness to practice director at the GMC to discuss why there are more complaints and disciplinary procedures against EMDs. We had a given a four point demand which the GMC is considering.

At the BMA meeting on the future of IMGs our team raised the issue of the racism in the BMA and demanded that there should be less talk and more action.

You all will be pleased to learn that money continues to trickle in the legal fund. We are grateful to the British-Indian Psychiatric Association for their contribution of £2307. BAPIO North West division have added another £950 to their initial contribution. We are grateful to all individual contributors.

Dr Ramesh Mehta



BAPIO WELSH DIVISION LAUNCHED

India Centre in Cardiff saw the opening of the latest BAPIO division. This was attended by a large number of general practitioners, consultants and junior doctors. Mrs and Dr Mathur a senior GP and Mrs. And Dr Sastry OBE a consultant in care of elderly inaugurated the division. The meeting started with Sarswati prayer sung by Uma Geetanath. Dr.Hemant Bolusani introduced the agenda for the day. Dr Dhawen Kumar, consulted Geneticist and a senior BAPIO member, welcomed the guests. Dr.Ramesh Mehta, the BAPIO president in his address explained the background to the formation of BAPIO. Dr Mathur (Affectionately knows as YB) lauded the work being done by BAPIO. Dr Sastry in his address expressed his delight at BAPIO coming to Wales. He assured the audience that he would lead the division with energy and commitment. There was a discussion session when Dr Mehta answered questions on various topics. Dr.Nahar Soni proposed a vote of thanks. Dr.Sajayan, member of the BAPIO's Grand Advisory Council, who also attended the Launch said, "The enthusiasm and excitement amongst the junior doctors in particular was infectious. I was very impressed with the organising ability of Drs Soni and Bolusani.





**BAPIO EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE 2006-09**

BAPIO **National Conference**

**NEW OFFICE BEARERS AND MEMBERS OF
BAPIO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTED
ON 30th SEPTEMBER 2006**

**PRESIDENT: DR RAMESH MEHTA
SECRETARY: DR SATWINDER BASRA
TREASURER: DR SUBHASH KANUGO**

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

**DR RAMAN LAKSHMAN
DR PARESH LATHIA
DR SATHEESH MATHEW
DR RAJ KATHANE
DR VIRENDRA SONI
DR REKHA SONI
DR SAJAYAN
DR CHINNAIHA YEMULA
DR SAM MURNEL
DR MURARI AGARWAL**

Career and Finance

for

Ethnic minority Doctors

BIRMINGHAM

18th November 2006

**Useful for Senior as well as Junior Doctors.
First half to deal with careers and second half - all
you need to know about your finances**

Contact: *Dr K. K. TEWARI* kktewari@Aol.com



A LETTER FROM ARKANSAS

I am currently working in Arkansas Children's Hospital, which is part of University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) as a FELLOW IN PEDIATRIC PULMONOLOGY. Arkansas Children's Hospital is a 250 bedded tertiary children's hospital which is among the top 10 children's hospitals of USA. In my 3 year fellowship program, I will be doing some research on childhood asthma. Below is a preamble to my journey to the USA.

Little more than a year ago, when I appeared for National Grid Interviews organised by Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the interview committee refused to give me an opportunity to train as a Paediatric Pulmonologist. The reason they gave me was, in their own words "we thought that you will find it difficult to develop research skills". I was sad and surprised that they made this judgement with no basis as 1) they had not asked any detailed questions about my research interests in the interview and 2) the national grid training program was meant to provide opportunity for training in research skills, hence it is not prerequisite to have any prior research experience. They also had ignored the fact that I already had achieved some training in the



speciality and chose a wrong candidate who opted out even before joining! They filled this post later by offering it to another candidate who was not successful in the interview and who also did not have any prior research experience or prior pulmonology experience (unlike me). However, this candidate was born and trained in the UK. This overt discrimination made me to take it as a challenge and I decided to be a PEDIATRIC PULMONOLOGIST whatever the hurdle I may have to cross. So in the following 12 months, I took 3 USMLE steps (4 exams) to qualify to work in the US and managed to obtain a position in one of the best US hospitals. Now, I have no regrets for having been refused the national grid position in the UK. I am happy that I am on the course of what I wanted to become.

Regards,

Dr Satyanarayana Hegde

Well done Satya! The loss is that of this country. You stood up for your values and principles. Thanks for your continued support to BAPIO.

Editor



Dukhi's Corner

The Meaning of Success

The overseas doctors are passing through a very testing time, probably most decisive time of their life. What lies in store for us in the new system is anybody's guess but whether it will end the prevailing uncertainty or not, only time will tell.

Those who failed to get a job in NHS think that they have failed but on the other hand, those in the job do not consider themselves successful. Every achievement in life looks great till we are chasing it, but once we get it, it loses its charm with time. It is the reality of life that we should accept it.

I think that success cannot be determined by the number of degrees one adds to the name or the number of zeroes to the bank balance but success lies in our happiness. A person can be happy with

small things in everyday life and on the other hand, somebody will still be annoyed with himself, as he wants to do something big.

I can understand the feelings of the person who is without a job and with visa problems and other issues, the future does not look promising but when we hear from the persons who have gone back and happily settled in their lives, it reminds us that the happiness does not lie in a particular country but it lies within ourselves and it is up to us to find it. Life is not just about running after one thing or other all the times but our competitive spirit does not allow us to relax and think that we may keep trying whole life even then our children will complain that you tried hard to provide us all the luxuries in life but you never had time to sit with us when we needed you.

I think the most successful man is the person whose wife thinks that he does more household work than his neighbour! Jai Hind! Jai Bharat!!

DukhiAtma

Mentoring – A new exciting initiative of BAPIO

Many ethnic minorities doctors need support in their professional career to cope with the day to day rough and tumbles of their environment. Already over thirty Mentors have volunteered to join our Mentoring Project. BAPIO is inviting experienced doctors to join the new project as mentors from all the Hospitals as well as the General Practice.

Contact Dr Lakshman to join the Project. Email: lakshman.raman@gmail.com

India from 5p | Pakistan from 5p | USA / Europe from 2p

SUPPORT BAPIO WITH EVERY CALL YOU MAKE



Everytime a member opens an account both the member and BAPIO get £5 each. Everytime you Top-up BAPIO gets 5% of the Top-up amount.

This offer is in association with One2Dial, one of UK's premier telecom service providers. One2Dial offers excellent Customer Service, competitive rates and attractive Bonus offers.

Call 0800 081 1212
Quote 'BAPIO' when you call



Feedback & suggestions to Dr Sajayan (sajayan@gmail.com)

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

43 Hookhams Lane, Renhold, Bedford MK41 0JU United Kingdom
Tele: +44 (0)1234 772355, Fax: +44 (0)1234 795820, Email info@bapio.co.uk