

# Presidential Speech

**Bhardwaj**

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Honorable Chief Guest, Her Excellency, Madam President of India; honorable Dr. Devi Singhii Shekhawat; honorable Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Shri. Dinesh Trivedi; honorable members of Indian Radiology and Imaging Association (IRIA) on the dais; honorable guests from abroad; teachers; my senior colleagues; young radiologists; and students; I am thankful to God, my late parents, my teacher Dr. Ravinderpal Kaur, and my mentor in IRIA, Dr. V.P. Lakhanpal, for their kind blessings, and to all the members of IRIA who have reposed faith on me by electing me as President of the Indian Radiological and Imaging Association.

This association has been led by many stalwarts of radiology at different periods and with each passing year it has continued to shine like a star in the sky. I look to my senior colleagues in the association for their guidance, cooperation, and support throughout the year so that I can continue the work to achieve the goals set by my distinguished predecessors. I am sure that with your cooperation, we will move forward to a better tomorrow.

As we all know, during the last two decades, with the advances in technology in the field of imaging, radiodiagnosis has attained center stage in medicine. Nothing appears more relevant and important than to make imaging a virtual reality. In earlier times, it used to be said that the clinician was better placed for reading a chest x-ray than the radiologist. But today, the clinician is more often than not dependent on the radiologist for interpretation of cross-sectional imaging findings. On one

hand, there is a great need for developing superspecialties within the discipline of radiodiagnosis at postgraduate institutes and, on the other hand, it is equally important that the Medical Council of India consider introducing radiodiagnosis as a separate subject at the undergraduate level. Our association, with more than 8 000 members, deserves special appreciation for conducting continuing medical education (CME) programs throughout the year, specially designed to update the knowledge of young radiologists and postgraduate students.

In order to attain and sustain excellence, we must do our best to promote the Indian College of Radiology and Imaging (ICRI). Although, the ICRI is presently mainly concerned with the award of fellowships, its main task should be to update the knowledge of young radiologists by organizing CMEs and workshops. I will be happy if our association introduces written tests for the award of ICRI fellowship, besides taking into consideration the other eligibility criteria.

It is observed that with the development of superspecialties, many radiologists from premier institutes are not taking a keen interest in this national conference. However, they are very active in their respective superspecialty conferences. I hope that this association will devise means to avail of their expertise for the benefit of young radiologists during the first day of the ICRI session.

Although there are many issues before the association, one that requires the immediate attention pertains to the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act 1994 (PC and PNDT Act). It is requested that meetings of the Central Supervisory Board be held regularly as envisaged in the Act. Although this association is deeply committed to strict compliance with the PC and PNDT Act, it will be our endeavor to highlight the difficulties being faced by our members due to this Act. It is our duty to intensify our efforts to eliminate female feticide.

I also look forward to making progress on our plan

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of acquiring some land for the association in Delhi or the National Capital Region, where we hope to have a permanent convention center for future generations of radiologists.

In the coming year, I look forward to taking initiatives for better coordination with state branches for greater participation of residents in the ICRI.

I thank the organizers of the conference and wish them all success. I hope that the delegates will enjoy the exhaustive scientific programs.

Love live IRIA.

JAI HIND

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