



Presidential Address



**Change of Guard Ceremony / AGM
of
National Neonatology Forum of India
24th January 2021
New Delhi, India**



22nd President of The National Neonatology Forum (2021)

Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pejaver

FRCP, FRCPCH(UK), FNNE, FIAP

Professor of Neonatology, Bangalore, India

Chief Neonatologist, People Tree @Meenakshi Hospitals

Past Chair Person of The Neonatology Chapter of IAP

Past President of The Federation of Asia Oceania Perinatal Societies

Member of the International Committee of the World Association of Perinatal Medicine

Founder Editor in Chief of the Indexed Journal- Perinatology

Winner of CNN-IBN & Times of India -Ericson award for the best innovation

-IAP Immunize India

On Going Activities

- **NNF Accreditation of NICUs**
- **NNF Accreditation of SNCUs**
- **NNF Fellowship for Doctors & Nurses**
- **NNF Quiz for Doctors and Nurses**
- **Clinical Practice Guidelines**
- **NNF Journal**
- **NNF Week Celebrations (Prematurity Day)**
- **Annual NEOCON**
- **Engagement with GOI & NGOs**

Plans for 2021

- * **Joint Perinatal Meetings with FOGSI.**
- * **Early Detection of Developmental Delay.**
- * **Know your equipment for nurses.**
- * **Online platform based meetings: Total 24 meetings-2 meetings per month each (State wise).**
- * **NNF Mobile Application.**
- * **Development of a Knowledge Repository for all cadres. (NNF Kosha)**
- * **Regular Web Based Teaching for Fellows & Nurses.**
- * **Membership update/regularization.**
- * **Drive to increase the membership.**
- * **Encourage development of a North East Branch to include the smaller states in the region**
- * **Data Collection: By encouraging all Fellowship centres to provide data and collaborate.**
- * **Increase visibility of NNF amongst sister organizations and International arena.**
- * **Initiate plan for establishment of Neonatal Sub/Super Specialities Network.**

Presidential Address

Respected Seniors, Beloved Contemporaries, Enthusiastic Younger Generation, Esteemed members of NNFPartners (both GOI and NGOs), OB and EB teams of NNF and distinguished Guests.

It is my pride and pleasure to stand before you as the 22nd President of the National Neonatology Forum for the year 2021. I stand here with humility, fully knowing that the Founders,distinguished past Office Bearers and the long standing members who had the vision and the hard work they put into build this noble organization for the promotion of Newborn Health Care and Newborn Health Education in India. I assure you that I along with my team will strive hard to continue the good work and raise the level of the organization to a greater height.

I returned to India in 1996 after a decade of higher education and worked as consultant in the UK, followed by working and gaining valuable experience in Africa, UK, Germany and the Middle East. I can confidently say that these varieties of exposures, experience has helped me a lot in gaining insight into task of clinical work and the art of newborn care. The reasons that helped me stand in front of you as President NNF may be many, but the most important is the love, camaraderie, guidance and support given by all those I met and interacted with, all over India during these last 25 years. I am ever grateful to all of them.

I am fortunate that I was part of the team led by Dr Ashok Deorari which did commendable work in spite of the sudden and rude shock we received by the Corona virus. This came as bolt out of the blue. I learnt a lot during these difficult days and unusual harsh circumstances. I am lucky to have an Executive Board which is very balanced, dynamic and capable.

We stand on the threshold of a New World Order, New India. As this year begins, we have to realize that in just a decade we have to achieve the target of having single digit NMR. This is not an easy task. Our country is unique, diverse and has the non-uniformlevel of health care statistics varying from below average to brilliance. Our population, geography the extent heterogeneity in every aspect of life is perhaps not seen in any other country in the world. We have to accept this without being overwhelmed. I realize that there cannot be just one plan for the whole country. We have to hand holdthe states who need more help and take them along with us. When we look at those who have already reached NMR close to ten and a few who are already on single digit mark, they have to concentrate on different strategies to progress i.e.look at small print of the causes of newborn mortality and prevent them. Otherwise there will be stagnation. This also cautions us that as the NMR improves, it may take longer duration to register a decrease of even a single point.

To achieve the task before us, we have to work as a team be it an Obstetricians, Neonatologists, Nurses or Field Workers. We should communicate, coordinate and implement by optimum use of resources that we have at our disposal. I am a firm believer in the Perinatal approach of Newborn Care. We need to join hands with our esteemed partners: GOI and NGOs as our goal is the same i.e. improving New born Health in our country. It is our duty to encourage the State Govts. and professional to utilize the good government programs.

I have charted a Presidential Action Plan, copies of which are in your hands. I have discussed it with my team and will not go into details at this platform. I realize that NNF has already been doing notable work with its ongoing programs and those will be continued by my team and me. My action plan has taken into account the need for coordination between agencies, private, Govt, NGO sector and other professional bodies involved in newborn health care. The need to train and empower the nurses to utilize their capabilities is an essential but mammoth task. We cannot do without nurses as they are an important piece of the solution. Our plan is incomplete without them. We need to look at different areas like the community, urban slums, smaller centres, as well as level 3 NICUs, individually and separately as their needs are different.

It is the duty and responsibility of an organization like ours to ensure that education and academics continue as it is important to build a larger team of future neonatologists to carry on the task at hand. I hope the action plan reflects that. As you may have noticed, the action plan has some projects which are short term and some which are long term/ on-going and only the initiation can be done during my term. I am blessed that very senior academicians, researchers and brilliant clinicians have been elected to lead the NNF in the coming two years after mine. That is the reassurance I relish.

I once again seek all your blessings, your cooperation, guidance and support during my term in office. I hope that I will fulfil my aspirations and contribute to this great organization, The National Neonatology Forum of India.



Dr. Ranjan Kumar Pejaver
President, NNF- 2021

Jai Hind!!

Jai NNF!!