



Indian Medical Association

LUCKNOW BRANCH

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Dr. Nayeem Ahmed Sheikh - 9721633000

Dr. Anup Agarwal - 9415018365

Ref. No. 051/IMA Lko/ Admi/ 2021

Dated: 18.06.2021

To,
Shri Narendra Modi ji
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
Prime Minister's Office
South Block, Raisina Hill,
New Delhi-110011
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Sub: Appealing for your personal intervention to resolve the long pending pleas of the Indian Medical Association and to ensure optimum milieu for Modern Medical professionals to work with compassion and dedication, without mental and physical fear

Beloved Honourable Prime Minister Ji,

IMA is the largest professional association of Modern Medical professionals in India ever since its inception in 1928 by Indian Doctors including Dr. K. S. Ray, Sir Nil Ratan Sircar, Dr. B. C. Roy, Dr. M. A. Ansari, Col. Bholu Nath, Major M. G. Naidu, Dr. B.N. Vyas, Dr. D. Silva, Dr. N. A. Ghosh, Dr. D. A. Chakravarthi, Dr. Viswanathan, and Capt. B. V. Mukherjee who had also actively participated in the struggle for Independence of the country. The IMA has been constantly striving towards fulfilling its objectives of Promotion and Advancement of Medical and Allied Sciences in all their different branches, the improvement of Public Health and Medical Education in India and the maintenance of honour and dignity of medical profession.

During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the entire medical fraternity, right from day one, has been battling at the frontlines in the war against coronavirus and has been able to save millions of people from the clutches of severe COVID-19 infection and in the bargain, it has lost more than 1400 of its proactive veterans and dynamic younger ones as martyrs in this war against COVID-19.

Cont-02



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Though the second wave has stuck our country very severely and has made our people to suffer, your innovative steps to augment oxygen supply, encourage judicious use of Remdesivir and expedite enhancement of hospital beds and capacity have enabled the frontline workers to work with dedication towards reducing the mortality rate of this deadly virus.

We believe that it is your proactive innovation of rolling out vaccination which is solely instrumental in safeguarding thousands of persons from being victims of corona and protecting them against the severe symptoms of the disease. IMA, right from day one, has been proactively standing with the Government to encourage, endorse and augment the vaccination drive in the nation. With your patronage, the vaccine hesitancy in the minds of the common public has substantially reduced. We also thank you for your kind appreciation for modern medical professionals and firm stand against people who spread misinformation against Vaccination.

In the midst of this pandemic, we are also deeply hurt to see the increasing incidents of physical violence against the doctors and the health care professionals in this country. The brutal assault on our young Doctor in Assam and the assault on lady doctors and even on veteran practitioners across the country - are really causing mental trauma amongst the practitioners.

Many young doctors have also lost their lives on account of their dedicated service to thousands of people - which has affected not only the Doctors but also many of their close family members. There are cases where both husband and wife being doctors have lost their lives, leaving behind their children as orphans. IMA is maintaining a registry of all such cases, and we periodically submit these details to the authorities seeking recognition and support for these families. Health of nation depends upon the health of profession

With the continuous and ongoing physical and mental assault on our doctors as well as purposeful spread of misinformation against modern medicine and vaccination by certain people with vested interests - IMA is constrained to once again appeal to you to personally intervene and resolve our long pending pleas to stop assault on profession and professionals.

We demand the following:-

1. The Health Services Personnel and Clinical Establishments (Prohibition of Violence and Damage to Property) Bill, 2019, which



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seeks to punish people who assault on-duty doctors and other healthcare professionals by imposing a jail term of up to 10 years – which, apparently, was dismissed by the Home Ministry during an inter-ministerial consultation over the draft law, ought to be promulgated immediately along with the incorporation of provisions from the IPC / CrPC and with stipulations for a fixed time schedule for speedy conclusion of trials. All those involved in such heinous crimes ought to be punished so as to also create an effective deterrent for other antisocial elements who may indulge in attacking any Health care professionals.

2. The doctors who have lost their lives in the war against the COVID-19 pandemic ought to be recognised as COVID MARTYRS with due acknowledgment of their sacrifice. Their families ought to be duly supported by the Government. We thank you for the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana scheme under which insurance benefits are being extended to such families, however, we wish to bring to your kind notice that due to various obstacles in the procedural implementation of the Scheme, out of 754 doctors who had lost their lives in the first wave, families of only 168 Doctors have been able to apply under this Scheme. IMA requests you to create an effective mechanism for identifying and verifying all these victims through the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI) and also ensure that the support shall be given to all the said families as solatium at their door steps.

3. IMA believes that vaccination is the only weapon to promote and empower our country to get over the pandemic and to protect our vulnerable population. It is gratifying to note that only .06 % of people who have received both the doses of vaccine got minimal infection by a corona virus, and very rarely did vaccinated people have any severe infection. It is well proved, that by vaccination we can save our people and country from the catastrophic cascades of this severe infection. Even worldwide, vaccination has been found to be the most effective solution to tackle the corona virus pandemic and prevent the loss of lives to the maximum extent possible. Hence, the Government should promote universal free vaccination to all above 18 years of age without leaving the vaccines to the extent of 50% to the states and private hospitals. We believe that only when a strong leader like you leads this programme, the full benefit shall reach out to all people. People who talk against vaccination should be punished as per the Law.



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4. The post COVID-19 complications of lung fibrosis, increased thrombotic events and fungal infections are on the rise and we need to get prepared for the same. The drugs needed for the mucormycosis fungal disease are not available with ease and we thank you for the efforts taken to import the said drugs and simultaneously augment indigenous production. We appeal to you to set up a separate research cell to study this post COVID-19 complication in detail and to come out with multi-faceted treatment guidelines in all disciplines of Medicine.

On the day of 18th June 2021, we observe as 'IMA National Protest Day' to seek your attention and favorable action to provide optimum milia for modern health care profession, which will infuse confidence in us to work with much more compassion and dedication and without any fear of mental and physical harassment.

We are humbly awaiting your personal intervention for resolving all of our above-mentioned pleas.

Thanking you and with kind regards

Yours sincerely

Dr. Rama Srivastava
President

Dr. J.D. Rawat
Hony. Secretary

Copy to

1. The National President, IMA HQs, New Delhi