

Editorial

The 47th Annual National Conference of All India Occupational Therapists' Association: EMCON'10 was very successfully organized from January 21-23, 2010 at Ahmedabad. The Plenary Session on the theme of the conference 'Entrepreneurship in Occupational Therapy' received wide appreciation. The highlight of the event was COTE on 'Disaster Management in Occupational Therapy', an innovative area of OT Practice. President AIOTA Dr. Anil K. Srivastava was the lead speaker while Dr. M. Mathan R. David was the co-speaker for this pre-conference continuing OT Education program.

I congratulate Dr. S.R. Apte, the Organizing Secretary & his team and Dr. Mrs. Pratibha Vaidya (Mumbai) Chairperson, Scientific Program Committee, for this successful event of AIOTA. It was superbly organized by Gujarat Branch of AIOTA in collaboration with Ahmedabad Institute of Medical Sciences. GB of AIOTA endorsed AIOTA Executive's proposal to use the terminology OTICON in place of EMCON for future conference to promote OT and its public awareness in different regions of the country. The 48th Annual Conference of AIOTA: OTICON2011 will likely to be held at Chennai. We have received proposal for hosting the Conference from S.R.M. University Chennai and T.N. Branch of AIOTA. The EC will take decision soon and the information will be uploaded on AIOTA Website for information to members and all concerned.

I sincerely appreciate AIOTA GB's decision to accept the EC's proposal of renewal of Life Membership after every 15 years to meet out heavy financial expenses in all spheres including WFOT annual membership subscription. The renewal subscription shall be Rs. 3000.00 only. The decision would come into force w.e.f. April 1, 2010. On behalf of EC, I appreciate the efforts of Dr. R.K. Sharma and Dr. Mrs. Shashi Oberai for effectively presenting the proposal to GB with all facts and figures.

My heartfelt congratulations to Office Bearers and EC Members, declared elected at G.B. Meeting held at Ahmedabad to constitute Executive Committee that will come to function from April 1, 2010 with new and innovative ideas for multidimensional growth of the profession and association in India. I am confident that under the able leadership of Dr. M.S. Warhade, the newly elected President of AIOTA, the organizational activities would develop manifold. The long pending issue of formation of Central Council for OT, as was recommended by Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare of Rajya Sabha in Oct. 2008 would continue to remain a challenge for the new team of EC. I am sure that the sincere hard work, dedication and vision this specific and also other issue would be taken care of effectively.

I also wish that the newly elected team will also make sincere efforts in not only maintaining but also try further uplifting the high standards, which IJOT has achieved nationally and internationally over the years. I convey my deep gratitude to Editorial Board Members of IJOT and Members of Executive of AIOTA and ACOT for the cooperation I have continuously received in discharging my responsibilities as President of AIOTA, Executive Chairman of ACOT, WFOT Delegate and Editor of IJOT continuously since past 8 years. I wish this change is for good and hope it should be welcomed by all.

Thank you and with best wishes.

Dr. Anil K. Srivastava