Dear Members,

Gender equality is intrinsically linked to sustainable development and is vital to the realization of human rights for all. Even though Science, Technology and Education provide unprecedented opportunities women’s attainment at all levels in all spheres of life is often unrecognized. Henceforth, empowerment of women is with special emphasis to this pivotal to bring change which can provide unique perspectives in various fields. The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) launched FIP-WiSE initiative on 11th February, 2020 as United Nations International Day of Women and Girls in Science - a first for women in Pharmaceutical Science and Education. FIP-WiSE initiative manifests to help achieve equity; to empower women in pharmaceutical sciences and pharmacy education; to attract students and young women into these fields. Correspondingly, to attain gender equity a reality for women in Pharmaceutical Sciences and Education we need to draw more people into the discussion.

The Election process of IPA office bearers for the term 2020-2022 has been commenced and the amendments in election bye-laws will bring new generation to IPA office. I deem it a great privilege to convey my deep sense of gratitude and thanks to all the members of the association, all IPA centre office bearers, IPA senior members, the past presidents, the past office bearers and all the IPA CEC members, all the state and local branch presidents, secretaries and EC members, the staff and consultants of the IPA secretariat for their immense appreciation, spirit, support and encouragement for the successful completion of my tenure. I absolutely couldn’t have done it without you, nor can I take the next steps without your help. I believe that all of this can be done with real generosity of spirit and action. I thank each and everyone for the involvement and willingness expressed to take completion of tasks beyond their comfort zones. The next upcoming task for the new IPA team is to mobilise building fund to a tune of minimum 5 Crore to complete IPA building and interiors, etc.

During these two years, on a day-to-day level there are some real memorable highlights, such as milestones which rise above the expectations and seize the opportunity where the achievements and dreams are truly reached. The glimpses of challenges I have met during my tenure includes long-awaited dream project of IPA building. I owe my special thanks to IPA building committee members for their relentless efforts in obtaining all requisite permissions to complete the project. The IPA Service Tax problem has been sorted out and IPA won the service tax case and saved considerable amount of money. The IPA website has been given face lift with different blogs, online membership option with payment gateway, Regularisation of membership data stream-lined the election setup of various states and local branches. IPA secretariat mobilised to ensure smooth and rapid communication between state, local branches and centre. In this regard, 6 State and 10 Local Branches were newly formed with the team of IPA.

The IPA SF is going to organise the 11th IPA Students Congress which will be hosted at Vignan Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology, Duvvada, Visakhapatnam A.P during 28th-29th February, 2020 (Friday-Saturday) with a theme “Workforce For Future Needs”. The congress beckons leaders from Pharma Industry, Regulatory, Academia Research, Hospital & Community Practice to deliberate and present their vision and views about the major role a Pharmacy student can play in the improvement of Pharmacy Profession in INDIA. The congress will be catalyzing their overall development, academic and professional skills for their benefit, in turn to the health care profession of INDIA. On account of this, I wish the event will be blessed with continuous support, encouragement and co-operation of all to make the programme successful and blissful.

The construction of IPA building is going with great momentum and I extend my deep sense of gratitude to Pharma institutions, Pharma industries for their voluntary contribution and sponsorship. My sincere appeal to all the members of IPA, IPA State and local branches, donors, sponsors to come forward and contribute towards the noble cause.

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Dr. T. V. Narayana