



Newsletter of ASA India



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Acupuncture Science Association (ASA)

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"Acupuncture - a Symbol of India China Friendship"- 2018 Issue

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Editorial

India and China had been the two greatest neighbors who had shared lots of **Traditional Wisdom** and loads of discoveries together.

Both are great primordial civilizations which existed as Chinese mainland and Indian subcontinent; the trade and commerce which took place between India and China from historical times till now are noteworthy. **Rice and Tea** among food and beverages, Joint or Nuclear family styles and Philosophies are common.

Both the nations fought side by side as **allies during the Second World War** and Indian soldiers and doctors treated the Chinese during the war. The Independence was obtained during much near years. India became Independent in 1947 and China became PRC under Chairman Mao in 1949.

Buddhism was born in India and travelled to get nurtured in China. In 495 AD, the Indian monk **Ba Tuo**, or **Buddhabhadra**, came to China teaching a form of Buddhism known as Xiao Sheng Buddhism. He was given land at the foot of Shaoshi mountain by Emperor Shao Wen and founded the **Shaolin Temple** on this land.

Around this time there was an Indian prince named **Bodhidharma** – an intelligent and brave prince from southern India – who was known as **Da Mo** in China. Da Mo's actions, meditations and attitude had a profound effect upon the Chinese audiences and he became more famous, later to teach meditation to China where it became Chan and spread to other countries like Indonesia, Japan and to the Far East where it became Zen. He also taught weaponless fighting art, which gave birth to modern day martial arts.

Dwarkanath Shantaram Kotnis, also known by his Chinese name **Ke Dihua**, was one of the five Indian physicians sent to China to provide medical assistance during the Second War between China and Japan in 1938. He served on the frontline and saved the lives of many Chinese soldiers. After four years in China, he fell ill and died at the age of 32.

Dr Kotnis is revered as a hero to this day, within China: stamps bearing his picture have been printed and there is a memorial for him in Hebei province.

Every time a Chinese leader visits India, he usually meets the family of Dr Kotnis, and recently the **Premier Li Keqiang** who visited the doctor's family in Mumbai, was received by his 92-year-old sister – who was overwhelmed that even after so many years, Dr Kotnis was remembered and loved by the Chinese and that the premiers were taking pains to meet them.

In 1924, India's first Nobel Laureate **Rabindranath Tagore** visited China and spoke about his admiration for "its world of beauty", "wisdom" and "touch of the human". He spoke about the need for "eternally revealing a joyous relationship unforeseen" between the two countries.

Introduction of Acupuncture to India was pioneered by **Dr. B.K. Basu**, the first Indian who learned Chinese acupuncture from mainland China while he was part of the Indian Medical Mission. The small acupuncture needle has made a huge impact thereafter, helping more Indians to visit Chinese acupuncture schools till today and creating exchange programs to invite Chinese stalwarts to teach this mystic healing art here within India.

Dr. C. K. Raju (Editor)

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FIVE YEARS (2013-2018)
Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India

Origin of Acupuncture-Indian contribution

In the oriental countries, Acupuncture is popular with different terminologies like In China, 'Chen Chiu' (Mandarian Chinese), in Japan 'Shin Kiyu' and in India as 'Bhedan Karma', 'Marma Chikitsa', 'Suchi Bheda chikitsa, 'Dagdha chikitsa' etc. There are several vital documents regarding Sino-Indian common ancestry. There are extensive information in Charak Samhita, Sushruta Samhita, Atharva Veda etc. regarding therapy by needles.

World Scenario

Acupuncture is an established medical science and is a recognized system of healing in most of the countries of South East Asia and also several other countries including UK and USA. As per WHO recent document '**WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023**', where it is clearly mentioned that out of 129 countries in the world (those who have responded to WHO queries) 103 countries already recognized Acupuncture as an independent system of medicine. It also said that 29 countries are having regulations for practice and 18 countries are having health insurance coverage. Earlier WHO also published definite Training Guideline in Acupuncture. As per the recent statistics, **after Allopathy, Acupuncture is the fastest growing medical system in the world.**

Indian scenario

Rejuvenation of Acupuncture and recent development

In 1959, Dr. B. K. Basu, the member of Historic Indian Medical Mission to China (1938-'43) rejuvenated Acupuncture in India. Interestingly, Dr. Basu was a graduate of conventional western medicine. Afterwards, different socio-medical organisations like Peoples' Relief Committee, Dr. Dwarkanath Kotnis Memorial Committee etc. started to practice Acupuncture extensively amongst the masses with their grass roots level health workers and medicos.

Subsequently, different institutions and universities like, Jadavpur University, West Bengal, (1981) (*1st. regular University in India to introduce Acupuncture Course*), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)- *1st. Govt. of India run Open University*, Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), Fakir Mohan University (Orissa), Annamalai University (Chidambaram), Vinayaka Mission University (Salem, Tamil Nadu), Tamilnadu Physical Education and Sports University - TNPESU (Chennai) (*A Government of Tamilnadu institution-under UGC*), Madurai Kamraj University (Madurai); University College of Medical Sciences, Sir Ganga Ram, Apollo, Escorts, DDU, L.N.J.P.N.Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital, Institute of Acupuncture & Natural Medicines (IANM), G.T.B. Hospital, RML Hospital, Lady Hardinge Hospital; -

- All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) of New Delhi, Mure Memorial Hospital (Nagpur), Lifeline Hospital (Rourkela); Dr. B. K. Basu Memorial Research & Training Institute of Acupuncture, Kolkata, West Bengal (*only State Govt. run Acupuncture Institute in India*); Ludhiana Acupuncture Medical College & Dr. D. N. Kotnis Hospital, Punjab (1975) (*Oldest Non Govt. Acupuncture College & Hospital in India*), Indian Research Institute for Integrated Medicine (IRIIM) Howrah West Bengal (1981) (*Only Govt. of India & Govt. of West Bengal recognised Acupuncture Research & Training Institute in India- a Non Govt. organisation*), Acupuncture Association of India (1981), Kolkata Acupuncture Medical College and other leading medical institutions have undertaken programs for the establishment and spread of Acupuncture in India.

This science is now being practiced in our country by a large number of doctors for more than seven decades.

Role of Government in its promotion

In 1996, Govt. of West Bengal (1st. State in India) has recognized acupuncture as a system of therapy under the 'West Bengal Acupuncture System of Therapy Act 1996' (Act NO.8 of 1996). State Govt. established an institute in the name of B. K Basu Memorial Research & Training Institute of Acupuncture. The Govt. of West Bengal has appointed doctors only for acupuncture treatment independently in all district hospitals & some sub divisional hospitals.

In 2017, Govt. of Maharashtra has recognised the Acupuncture System of Therapy by an Act passed in the in the state Assembly, Maharashtra Acupuncture Council is also formed by the Govt.

Many state governments and Government of India are also processing the documents in respect to promotion and recognition.

Recognition and Funding through several research projects by Govt. of India to Acupuncture Institutes since '90s, Important positive concluding remark by ICMR under Govt. of India, in 1997 on the "Comparative Efficacy of Acupuncture in definite clinical condition", Govt. of India's Notification in 2003 regarding Practice of Qualified Acupuncturists, Awarding 'Padmashree' in 2008 to the leading Acupuncture Practitioner and commencement of PG Course in Acupuncture by IGNOU in 2009 through several Program Study Centres (PSC) are clear indications of the seriousness of Govt. of India to explore the suitable role of Acupuncture in National Health Care Delivery System.

In the light of the above and the fact that indigenous Acupuncture fulfills both the Essential and Desirable Criteria (as asked earlier by ICMR) for Recognition as an Independent System of Medicine. It has the potential to appreciably lower the cost of mass health care & related budget and achieve self-sufficiency in national health care. Henceforth since 1990's the leading Acupuncture bodies requested that it should be included in the health care delivery system and be accorded necessary recognition in the country as an independent system.

Emergence of ASA India

At this historic moment, Acupuncturists from all over India assembled in the historic Ludhiana National Acupuncture Meet in Dec. 2013, discussed at length for three days regarding the history & present status of Acupuncture & Acupuncturists in India and its future course of action regarding it's recognition in the states & the center. After thorough discussion, the gathering unanimously finalized a new All India Association, its memorandum and the proposed Acupuncture Bill for the center and the states keeping in mind all the lessons drawn from the previous experiences and future course of action. Later on it was unanimously resolved that although there are several associations and platforms functioning at different levels in India in the field of Acupuncture, there is an urgent need today to unite all these units and all categories of truly practicing General Acupuncturists under one umbrella. Finally, new All India platform named **Acupuncture Science Association (ASA)** emerged as a National level Association.

Now Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) is the largest nonprofit professional organization of Acupuncture practitioners in the country having members from 23 Indian States & Union Territories of India and 8 countries in Abroad.

ASA India had already undertaken the following organizational responsibilities:

- i. Enrolling the new members of ASA throughout India based on definite detailed membership procedure and guideline;
- ii. Forming state branches with definite guideline;
- iii. Collateral membership with all the existent Acupuncture Associations;
- iv. Publishing ASA News Letter for communicating the back ground of ASA formation and its future course of action;
- v. Organizing Free Medical Camp, Seminars, CME, Public Awareness Program, Regular Propagation through all sorts of media;
- vi. Interacting with members regarding their queries on their educational standard in Acupuncture, future scope on training and standardization, legal status etc;
- vii. Move for the recognition of system of therapy in center and states;
- viii. Sensitizing the need for proper regulation in the practice of Acupuncture;
- ix. Utilizing maximum the most powerful social media in favor of Acupuncture Recognition and ASA India.
- x. Drafted Ethical Code of Conduct for the Acupuncturists.

Accordingly, ASA India already completed or undertaken the following national & state level tasks:

1. Recognition of Acupuncture in India

i) National Level:

ASA India has already submitted "Proposal for Recognition of Acupuncture System of Medicine under Mechanism for Consideration of Proposals for Recognition to New / Alternative Systems of Medicine" to Govt. of India, Department of Health Research, New Delhi on March 29, 2017. This proposal was drafted jointly by Indian Research Institute for Integrated Medicine (IRIIM), Howrah, West Bengal and Ludhiana Acupuncture Medical College & Dr. Kotnis Hospital, Punjab. Both the organizations are the main initiators of ASA India.

As the largest association representing majority of Acupuncturists of India, ASA India is one of the participants of High level Inter Departmental Committee (IDC) meetings organised by Dept. of Health Research (DHR) under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India to consider recognition of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine in India. After the final meeting of 09.01.2018 (earlier two meetings held on Oct.4, 2017 & Nov.22, 2017) held at New Delhi, DHR is supposed to recommend to the Health Ministry for Full Fledged Recognition of Acupuncture as a System of Medicine.

ii) State Level :

- 1 ASA India worked as a team with Maharashtra colleagues for obtaining the full recognition of Acupuncture as a system in the state.** Maharashtra Acupuncture System of Therapy Act, 2015 (Mah. Act No.XXV of 2017 is enacted on April 3, 2017). Now acupuncture Practitioners are waiting for registration process to start by the Council of Acupuncture Therapy, Maharashtra. Interestingly, after 2 decades of the West Bengal act passed (first time in India in 1996) Maharashtra Govt. took the long awaited decision of revitalizing this ancient therapy with full status which will definitely boost the move in other states and the center.

In other states also preparatory moves have started in the line of West Bengal & Maharashtra.

- 2 After carefully analyzing the document "WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023" we came to know the increasing importance of acupuncture in the health care delivery as a whole. ASA India and its state branches have already started popularizing this document and utilizing for getting the due status of this therapy in different states and centre.**

- 3 We are aware that at present throughout India the education and practice of alternative system of medicines (including Acupuncture) is regulated by Govt. of India 2003 order.**

By 2003 order, only Certificate Course can be conducted, but not any Degree or Diploma course. So to develop Full Fledged Acupuncture Doctor, ASA India already submitted proposal to the Central and State Govt. to allow to start new Colleges in different states to introduce Full time Degree (5^{1/2} yrs.) and Diploma (3^{1/2} yrs.) courses on Acupuncture System of Therapy for 10+ 2 Fresher as per guideline of World Health Organization (WHO) and State Health regulatory body if any.

- 4 After primary nationwide survey regarding the present status of Acupuncture practice in India, ASA India introduced a refresher training program on Acupuncture-Moxibustion (AM) for existing Acupuncture Practitioners** in line of worldwide accepted Acupuncture Training Guideline of World Health Organization (WHO).

ASA India's senior most founders with more than 4 or 3 decades teaching & clinical experience, lead the whole teaching and refresher program of AM. The whole training is based on NO TUTION FEE. **After successful completion of 7 such sessions already held** respectively at ASA India Regd. Office at Ludhiana Acupuncture College & Hospital; ASA HQ at IRIIM Howrah and several other centers all over India, we have decided for more such future Training Programs throughout India.

- 5 ASA India celebrated 40 Years of Dr. D.N. Kotnis Health & Education Centre and held at Ludhiana Acupuncture Medical College & Dr. Kotnis Hospital, Punjab on Dec.8-9, 2015.**

- 6 Organized 1st. National Convention for Recognition of Acupuncture in India on Dec. 16 & 17, 2017 in New Delhi.**

- 7 ASA India already organized 5 National meets and few regional meets** throughout India, where major policy making decisions have been undertaken.

- 8 ASA India has already published 4 issues of 'ASA News Letter'** which is distributed to all the members free or at subsidized cost.

- 9 ASA India already have an active fraternal relation** by different means like participation in conferences, CME, exchange of opinion with associations of acupuncture and acu-therapy of neighboring countries like China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Western countries. We have already exchanged delegations and more are expected in our ensuing meets throughout India.

Within a very short period of five years, ASA India team tried to fulfill the national gap in different ways for establishing this great ancient Acupuncture System of Medicine.

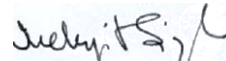
ASA India never wants to be an alternative of any existing association or platform throughout India. We believe in joint collaborative work with all the platforms and associations but not contrary to the principles and objectives of ASA India.

Recently, ASA India played a very important social role by supporting suffering Kerala flood affected people by cash donation and kinds collected from all over India.

As a professional organization of Acupuncture practitioners of India, ASA most humbly requests all the Acupuncturists & Acupuncture loving people in general to come forward for the promotion of this great ancient art of healing all over India for serving the ailing masses by ameliorating their sufferings.



(Dr. Debasis Bakshi)
General Secretary
ASA India



(Dr. Inderjit Singh)
Joint Secretary
ASA India

**Chinese Ambassador to India visits ASA India Registered Office
Ludhiana Dr. Kotnis Acupuncture Hospital & College**

His Excellency Mr. Luo Zhaohui , Ambassador of Peoples' Republic of China, his wife along with Chinese diplomats visited ASA India Registered Office at Dr. Kotnis Acupuncture Hospital and College, Ludhiana on 11 August, 2018. His Excellency appreciated 43 years of selfless service of the hospital during his interaction with the patients when they inquired about Chinese Acupuncture. During his speech, he assured that Chinese Embassy will always support for the promotion of Dr. Dwarkanath S. Kotnis Memorial Acupuncture Hospital Ludhiana and Acupuncture Science in India. He said Dr. Kotnis sacrificed his life in China during Second World War while helping the freedom movement of China for five years. He also mentioned that the name of Dr. Kotnis is recognized as a symbol of friendship between China and India.

**ASA India organized National Convention on Recognition of Acupuncture in India
& 5th National Meet Delhi Dec. 16-17, 2017**

Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India successfully organized National Convention on Recognition of Acupuncture in India & 5th. National Meet held on Dec. 16 & 17, 2017 at DMA Hall, Dariya Ganj, Delhi. More than 200 delegates participated from almost all the states of India.

We are grateful to the Chinese Embassy in India for having included this event in their Website:

http://in.china-embassy.org/eng/embassy_news/t1521113.htm

Resolution accepted unanimously in the *National Convention*:

1. National Convention hereby resolves that Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India should approach the State & Central Governments for Recognition of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine.
2. National Convention resolves that Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India should act as National Representative Body of Acupuncture practitioners and work for promotion of education, training, research and propagation of the system as also organizing regular CME program.
3. National Convention approves the training of Ethical conducts based on broad guidelines discussed in the convention and resolves that the same ethical conducts be abided by all the members and acupuncture practitioners in the country.

Dr. Debasis Bakshi
General Secretary, ASA India
December 17, 2017



ASA INDIA STANDPOINT
ON CLUBBING ACUPUNCTURE UNDER 'NATUROPATHY'
(Official Letter submitted on 22.11.17 in the meeting of
DHR, Ministry of Health & FW, GOI - at Indian Red Cross Building, Delhi)

1.1. Representatives of four Acupuncture organizations are invited in a meeting at DHR GOI, New Delhi office on Nov.22, 2017 on the subject *“Examination of Viability of ‘Acupuncture’ as a System of Medicine by Inter-Departmental Committee”*.

1.2. The participants are also instructed to discuss the issues with reference to Para-6.4 of the October 4 minutes:- **Clause no. 6.4. page 5/7** - *“Committee felt the idea of Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN) suggesting ways & means for recognition of Acupuncture as a system of medicine may be examined and importance stake holders should provide their response to observation made today...”. “The committee will make final recommendations after examining these aspects in detail.”*

1.3. if we analyze the above mentioned point it is clear that Govt. of India wants following condition to be fulfilled before finalizing the main demand of recognition :-

Whether Acupuncture will come under the umbrella of Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy or not.

2.0. Now in reply to the above mentioned point, the opinion of ASA India is as follows:-

2.1. It is true that both Acupuncture and Naturopathy are drugless therapies but all the criteria of Acupuncture system i.e. basic principle, aetiology, pathogenesis, differential diagnosis, treatment, management, prevention of chronic & acute ailments and treatment devices & methodology are unique. **It means Acupuncture is as a whole completely different in all respects from all the other systems of Medicine including Naturopathy.**

2.2. Moreover treatment procedures of Acupuncture system (Needling, Catgut embedding, Injection at Acu-Point) are mostly **Invasive** in nature, many of the applications like TENS, LASER, Catgut, Point injection are not so called ‘Natural’ in origin and these are practically opposite to the principle of Naturopathy which is **Non Invasive** in nature.

2.3. It is observed that Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (established on 30.03.1978) is not a Regulatory Body till date, then how a new Regulatory body of Acupuncture can function under this umbrella. Moreover in the official aims & objects of CCRYN contents only Yoga & Naturopathy, then how Acupuncture can come under this council?

2.4. **So question of 'Acupuncture on a different footing' is not at all justified 'within the overall umbrella of Naturopathy'.**

2.5. Moreover in two states of India (West Bengal and Maharashtra), overwhelming elected members of the Legislative Assembly **passed the act on Acupuncture as a separate system of therapy** (not under any other branch of Medicine) in their respective states. In West Bengal since 1996, Acupuncture is recognized as a separate system of therapy having its separate OPD in major general hospitals - state, district and sub divisional levels- all together in 22 hospitals and a separate Council of Acupuncture Therapy, West Bengal is functioning since late '90s.

2.6. The question raised 'Acupuncture is a part of curriculum in their (Yoga-Naturopathy) system' is true. But how on this ground, a completely different system (Acupuncture) can be a part or controlled by another system (Naturopathy)? For example, long before BNYS course started, Acupuncture is being used in many Govt. Hospitals in India (e.g. Safderjung, RML Hospitals, AIIMS New Delhi since early 1970s). IGNOU under Government of India introduced PG Diploma on Acupuncture for all stream of medical graduates. They learnt and practiced Acupuncture, but never claimed that Acupuncture belongs to their system or to be controlled by them. Another example, Physiotherapy is a subject in BNYS course, so is it justified to claim that Physiotherapy will come under Naturopathy? Now a days Yoga is introduced as a subject in some other undergraduate medical course, but they never claim Yoga is under them.

2.7. If all the systems of medicine (Modern Medicine, Ayurveda, Unani, Shiddha, Homoeopathy, Sowa Rigpa) is regulated by separate Regulating Bodies in our country, then why Acupuncture is proposed to be clubbed under Naturopathy- a Non Regulatory body of 3 important parameters i.e. Practices, Products & Practitioners.

2.8. So ASA India is not agreed with the 'FEELING' of the Committee or 'IDEA' of Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy regarding 'Ways & Means for recognition of acupuncture as a system of medicine". We are sorry to differ to this proposal of "some arrangement could also be made to treat Acupuncture on a different footing, but within the overall umbrella of Naturopathy".

3.0. Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India, the largest association of acupuncturists covering more than 23 states, strongly demands that Acupuncture System of Medicine must be recognised first and foremost as an Independent and Stand alone System of Medicine by Government of India so that this great traditional science and second highest popular therapy in the world can be an integrated part of National Health Care Delivery.

3.1. Also during the discussions held on October 4, **all the 3 stake holders** - National Coordination Committee (NCC) Delhi, Indian Academy of Acupuncture Science (IAAS) Delhi, Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) West Bengal **'justified their proposals seeking recognition of Acupuncture as a standalone mode of treatment'**.

3.2. But it is true that every new system of medicine needs a new Regulatory Body which should have well-laid-down governance mechanism for such purpose.

3.3. We propose a separate new Regulatory Body of Acupuncture System of Medicine under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (may be under CENTRAL COUNCIL OF INDIAN MEDICINE - CCIM) can be decided after imparting recognition to it as an Independent Stand alone System of Medicine.

4.0.To summarize, In reply to the "clear cut consensus frame work about qualifications of eligible practitioners, uniform curriculum of different courses, regulatory structure for teaching and training as well as to regulate the system" a detailed document covering 3 important parameters i.e. Practices, Products & Practitioners with National & International references has already submitted to DHR on November 13, 2017 and in the Nov.22 meeting at DHR, GOI.

4.1. ASA India thinks after considering the huge data regarding 3 important parameters i.e. Practices, Products & Practitioners, Govt. should announce formally as early as possible Regarding RECOGNITION of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine to solve these 3 decades pending demand by the thousands of Acupuncture Practitioners and beneficiaries.

4.2.The proposal of Clubbing under CCRYN cannot be considered at all, instead of future inclusion in CCIM (like Sowa Rigpa) may be explored because of same historic origin of the systems included in CCIM and full regulatory power of the body regarding '3 important parameters'.



Dr. Debasis Bakshi
General Secretary

Nov. 22, 2017

“Our greatest glory is in ‘never falling’, but in rising every time we fall”.

“When you know a thing, to hold that you know it; and when you do not know a thing, to allow that you do not know it;—this is knowledge”.

“Gravity is only the bark of wisdom’s tree, but it preserves it”.

Quotes by — Confucius

PL. READ THIS APPEAL, OPEN THE LINK PAGE AND SIGN IT:

<https://www.change.org/p/union-minister-for-ayush-recognise-acupuncture-as-independent-medical-system-in-india>

Respected Union Minister of AYUSH ,

Even after 70 years of independence “Health For All” remains out of reach for many in India. **Effective Health care with low cost and no side effect will be an ideal system for India where major population of India cannot afford high cost Health Care.** “Make in India” is promoted by Indian Govt. to improve industrial sector in India. Why not to promote health with medical systems born in India.

“Acupuncture” is one such System which needs attention by Indian Govt. and policy makers. Acupuncture was widely popular in Indian Sub continent in ancient times as “Suchiveda Chikitcha”. In traditional Indian text “Acupuncture” has been referred with different names.

In modern India “Acupuncture” has been revived and reintroduced by Late Dr. B. K. Basu and other stalwarts from 1959. Acupuncture Science Association (ASA), Indian Academy of Acupuncture Science , National Coordination Committee and many renowned organisations are working towards development of Acupuncture Science in India . At First “Acupuncture System” was introduced in the State of West Bengal in 1996. Later in 2017 Maharashtra Acupuncture System of Therapy Act is introduced.

As per WHO’s recent document “ WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014 - 2023”, **103 countries have recognized “Acupuncture” as an independent System of Medicine.(Only India is deprived of the system which was originated in India).** As per recent statistics, “Acupuncture” is the largest growing Medical System in the world, next to Allopathy. WHO has also published definite training guide lines for “ Acupuncture “.

In India, leading Govt. bodies like ICMR, DST, DIT, DRDO, CCRYN etc. have already funded for different research projects on Acupuncture - its comparative efficacy, diagnosis etc. and reports are satisfactory. In many Govt. and Non-Govt. medical institutions throughout the country, Acupuncture is practiced since more than 5 decades.

As per the demand of different acupuncture organizations, institutions and individuals, Govt. of India through its administrative order of 2003, has partially allowed to continue acupuncture as 'Mode of Therapy' and to be practiced only by qualified physicians and appropriately trained persons. But unfortunately the order allowed only certificate courses to run for medical graduates and stopped all the degree & diploma courses on acupuncture which is the main reason for insufficient development of acupuncture work force in India especially after 2003.

Though very late, fortunately Govt. of India invited proposals in February 2017 for recognition of new system of medicine. Major acupuncture associations and institutions, have submitted a detailed document with all the necessary enclosures to the Health Research Desk under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Govt. of India in March 2017 demanding full-fledged independent recognition to acupuncture system of medicine and its practitioners. But it is noted that Govt. is under pressure and want to bring "Acupuncture" under BNYS and not as an independent system.

We all acupuncture practitioners, demand recognition of “ACUPUNCTURE THERAPY” as independent system of medicine under AYUSH for following reasons, and shall not be clubbed with any other systems:

- 1 There are around one lakh or more passionate acupuncturists are practicing in India taken up acupuncture as their bread and butter. Their livelihood has to be taken care of.
- 2 All over world Acupuncture is practiced as an independent system and any body who is taking Acupuncture degree in India in future should be able to practice anywhere in the world .
- 3 Indians should be benefitted from this effective low cost therapy which will help crores of underprivileged families. Why only costly allopathic medicines and investigations have to be prescribed to burden Indians.
- 4 Government is spending crores of money in health sector, and the spending can be reduced by adapting to this low cost therapy.
- 5 Most of the senior citizens are suffering from the side effect of Allopathic medicines, where government is incurring huge expenditure which can be restricted by resorting to this no side effect therapy.
- 6 While 103 countries have been benefitted from this therapy, why our countrymen should be deprived of such benefits.
- 7 The Basic principles & Philosophy, aetiology, pathogenesis, differential diagnosis , treatment, Management ,prevention of chronic & acute ailments, treatment devices and methodology are completely different from any existing Medical Systems
- 8 “Acupuncture” is more than 4000 years old traditional Therapy , having enough subjects , applications and practice which cannot be completed in less than 4.5 years .Combining this with BNYS or any other existing Medical System would only dilute the effectiveness of both Systems.

Hence, I as an Acupuncturist, request the respected policy makers and noble hearts who are concerned with the health of our countrymen to ensure that “ACUPUNCTURE” shall be recognized as an “ INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OF MEDICINE “ under AYUSH and not under or clubbed with “Naturopathy”

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Kukatpally, Hyderabad-500072

Dear Acupuncture loving people of India,

As one of the oldest Acupuncture practitioners of India serving for more than 47 years in Acupuncture treatment, training and research work, I welcome this unique move. Though very late still we think Govt. of India will give due importance & respect to this 2nd largest therapy in the world by giving an independent status not clubbing with any other system including Naturopathy. Acupuncture and Naturopathy are completely different systems, there is no similarity at all. Moreover in 2 states of India this system is recognized as separate system through an Act passed in the Legislative Assembly. In West Bengal in 22 State & District Hospitals it is practiced officially as a totally separate dept. More than 1 Lac Acupuncturists and 200 experts with many decades of huge experience are fully capable to manage this system smoothly in the whole country. We fully support this move.

Dr. Debasis Bakshi

General Secretary,

Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India

Email: asa.india13@gmail.com

May 5, 2018

“Religion and Culture have been the repository and source of ethical values, while Science and Technology have the capacity to improve Human Life and Living conditions. For a world of the future, both must go hand in hand.”

Prof. Dr. RAM GOPAL

**Former Director DRDO HQ, MOD, GOI, New Delhi
Chief Advisor, ASA India**

“This is a period of Labor pains for practitioners of Acupuncture in India. I hope it will pass on soon and there will be a healthy delivery. Till then things are to be managed by practitioners themselves – that also very efficiently and beautifully.”

Prof. Dr. S.N. PANDEY

**Pro Chancellor - The Global Open University, Nagaland.
Advisor, ASA India**

QUESTIONS MAY BE RAISED IN THE PARLIAMENT (MONSOON SESSION 2018)

1. As per WHO document on “WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-23”, Acupuncture is already recognized as an independent system of medicine in majority of the countries in the globe including developed one.
Question: What is the reason the Govt. of India has not yet taken the final decision in implementing this long awaited need of the nation?
2. Scientific efficacy of acupuncture in treatment of several common ailments is already proved. Moreover as a drugless therapy, it is most cost effective, ecofriendly and without any side effects.
Question: What is the reason for not giving recognition to such a beneficial and cost effective therapy which may be used as a boon for Government as well as common people?
3. Maharashtra Govt. has already recognized Acupuncture as a system independently in 2017, Council is formed by the Govt. Earlier it was recognized in West Bengal in 1996 where full-fledged Acupuncture medical officer are posted at state general and district hospitals with independent responsibility and set-up.
Question: What are the reasons for depriving the whole nation from the benefit of this ancient art of healing, which can easily be included in AYUSH with an independent status so that whole nation can get the uniform benefit from Acupuncture?
4. As per worldwide statistics and WHO recommendation Acupuncture system of medicine is practiced and accepted as second largest therapy in the world after modern medicine.
Question: What is the exact reason for not recognizing this system in India so long?
5. In 2003 Govt. of India Administrative Order on Alternative Medicine by Ministry of Health, it was mentioned that no degree or diploma course on acupuncture can be given; only Post Graduate Certificate course for already qualified medical practitioner can be allowed. But in undergraduate BNYS (Bachelor of Naturopathy & Yogic Sciences) course syllabus, acupuncture has been included.
Question: When that above mentioned 2003 order was amended by which provision for an under graduate course, acupuncture is being taught?
6. In the Ministry of Health, Inter Departmental Committee (IDC) meeting held on Jan 9, 2018 at DHR office, Indian Red Cross Building, New Delhi, representatives of BNYS doctors' association claimed that acupuncture is already included in naturopathy so there is no need for independent recognition of it. But it is a known and established fact that Acupuncture being an invasive therapy with the unique theoretical and practical foundation having no similarity with naturopathy which is a fully non-invasive therapy with a total separate theory and practice. Moreover if Acupuncture is included or tagged under Naturopathy, it will harm both the therapies for their independent development and proper utilization for the health care.

Question: Why not Ministry of Health, Govt. of India announce specifically on the independent status of acupuncture under AYUSH but not tagged or under Naturopathy?

7. Leading all India acupuncture associations and organizations placed all the requirements needed for recognition of acupuncture as an independent system of medicine as per the invitation of Govt. of India, Ministry of Health, Dept. of Health Research (DHR) in three consecutive meetings held on 4.10.17, 22.11.17 & 9.1.18. Unfortunately Ministry of Health neither taken any positive stand point nor informed for any further requirement.

Question: Will the Health Ministry answer what is the reason for unusual delay which involves the fate of more than one lakh acupuncture practitioners and millions of beneficiaries throughout the country?

Proposed by:

Dr. Debasis Bakshi

General Secretary, Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India

(Spoke person on behalf of ASA India in the Ministry of Health, Govt. of India, Inter Departmental Committee (IDC) meet on Recognition of Acupuncture in India)

Email: drdebasis56@gmail.com - Mob.9831111317

CHINESE PRESIDENT 'XI JINPING' VISITS SISTER OF Dr KOTNIS – IN NEW DELHI. DURING HIS VISIT



Chinese President Xi Jinping presents the Panchsheel (Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence) Friendship Award to Manorama Kotnis, sister of late Indian doctor Dwarkanath Kotnis, at a function in New Delhi on Friday. | Photo Credit: PTI

Estd. 2014

Email:asa.india13@gmail.com



Acupuncture Science Association (ASA)

Registered under Punjab Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860) No. 239 of 2014-15

Regd. Off: Ludhiana Acupuncture Medical College & Dr. Kotnis Hospital, Salem Tabri, Ludhiana - 141 008,
Punjab, India. Mob. +91 98887-02426, +91 98140-87723

Head Off.: IRIIM Bhawan, Mourigram Stationpara, P.O. Unsani, Howrah - 711 302, West Bengal, India.

Ph. (033) 2669 6671, 2647 0652, Mob. +91 98311-11317, +91 94330 47918

ALL INDIA COMMITTEE

June 14, 2018

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HYDERABAD, TELANGANA

Editor-In-Charge, ASA Newsletter

Dr. C. K. Raju
CHENNAI, TAMILNADU

To

Shri J.P. Nadda*Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare to Govt. of India*

Room No. 348; 'A' Wing, Nirman Bhavan,

NEW DELHI-110 011

Subject: Inclusion of all stakeholders of DHR meet on Acupuncture Recognition in the preparatory process for granting Recognition of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine by Govt. of India

Respected Sir,

I, Dr. Debasis Bakshi, on behalf of the Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India, the largest Association of Acupuncturists in India, was present as one of the invitees of the high level meeting of Inter-Departmental Committee for identifying new system of medicine/ therapy to consider proposals seeking recognition of 'Acupuncture' as a System of Medicine held at DHR, Govt. of India, New Delhi, want to draw your kind attention to the following regarding the above mentioned subject :-

1. On April 11, 2018 we have sent a speed post letter to your office regarding "Recognition of Acupuncture as an independent system of medicine and". But till date we have not received any reply or acknowledgement from your office.

2. We are glad that Govt. of India is seriously considering for Recognition of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine. That will definitely help our Government to provide better and economical healthcare to our nation. This simple & easily adoptable therapy has a great potential to appreciably lower the cost of mass health care & achieve self-sufficiency.

3. We pray and firmly believe that Ministry will take the right judgment, which is long awaited, by giving independent status of Acupuncture and but not under or attached with any other system of medicine including Naturopathy. The detailed document in this regard has already been presented and submitted to DHR, Govt. of India. If required we are ready to submit the same to your office.

4. We are aware that in response to the Govt. of India's Public Notification No. V.25011/436/2016-HR dated 28. 2. 2017, ASA India has applied to DHR, GOI on 29.03.2017. Subsequently we were invited to present our demand on 3 consecutive meetings at DHR office, New Delhi held on 4.10.17, 22.11.17 & 9.1.18 respectively.

Contd.....2

Estd. 2014

Email:asa.india13@gmail.com



Acupuncture Science Association (ASA)

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Editor-In-Charge, ASA Newsletter

Dr. C. K. Raju
CHENNAI, TAMILNADU

//2//

Sir,

Lately my attention was drawn by some acupuncture practitioners to some irresponsible and misleading social media posts circulated by some people. It appears that some people with vested interests are trying to exploit this move of Govt. of India to recognize Acupuncture system by posing themselves as very important persons too deeply involved in recognition process of Govt. of India. Many of the acupuncture practitioners are misled by these posts and they are approaching them with high hopes for registration and employment. This situation is required to be remedied by discouraging such social media posts and by clarifying the fact that Govt. of India had earlier consulted 4 organizations active in Acupuncture and that Govt. of India will take all of them into confidence while passing any recognition order effecting future of this system.

We sincerely believe that your ministry will involve all the stakeholders of the above mentioned DHR meets on Acupuncture Recognition in this unique preparatory process for granting Recognition of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine by Govt. of India. For your kind information ASA India is an independent body is not under any network or platform. But we work in coordination with all the likeminded organizations or platform for a common cause as done in all the 3 DHR meets.

Eagerly waiting for your kind consideration at the earliest, NAMASKAR.

Thanking you,

Yours truly,

(Dr. Debasis Bakshi)

General Secretary, Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India
M.B.B.S (Cal), P.G. Certificate in Acupuncture, Nanjing, China
Registered Acupuncturist (Part A) by Council of Acupuncture Therapy,
Govt. of West Bengal

ASA's LETTER TO 'MADHYA PRADESH MEDICAL SCIENCE UNIVERSITY'

To
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
Madhya Pradesh Medical Science University
Medical College Campus, Jabalpur,
Madhya Pradesh 482 003

**Sub:- Reconsideration for starting MD (Acupuncture) course after
BNYS by your University**

Respected Sir,

In a WhatsApp message forwarded by some Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh on 9.8.18., we have noticed that your University is going to start MD (Acupuncture) course after BNYS. It was also mentioned that first **Board of Studies (BoS) Meeting of the PG Department of Naturopathy & Yogic Sciences of Madhya Pradesh Medical Science University was convened on 09.08.2018 at University campus in Jabalpur has taken this decision.**

As the largest association representing majority of Acupuncturists of India, we are really astonished to note the content of the message. For your kind information, our association is one of the participants of High level Inter Departmental Committee (IDC) meetings organized by Dept. of Health Research (DHR) under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India to consider recognition of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine in India. After the final meeting of 09.01.2018 held at New Delhi, DHR has already recommended to the Ministry for Full-fledged Recognition of Acupuncture as a New System of Medicine. Any day we are expecting the final announcement by Govt. of India in this matter.

Sir,

I humbly want to raise the following points or questions before you for your kind consideration:-

1. Acupuncture System of Medicine and Naturopathy System of Medicine are both completely different regarding their origin, theory and modality of practice;
2. Both these different systems have their professional all India associations which are working complete separately on acupuncture and naturopathy respectively;
3. Is this course regulated by any Yoga & Naturopathy Council or not?
4. Is this course recognized by UGC?

5. Already two Acupuncture State Councils (West Bengal & Maharashtra) are established by law in our country, which regulates its practice and education in their respective States. Is MD Acupuncture course affiliated by any of these Acupuncture Council or not?

6. By Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India's 2003 Order, only Certificate course on Acupuncture is allowed to run for all the existing Medical Graduates like MBBS, BAMS, BNYS, BUMS, BSMS, BHMS etc. But no Degree or Diploma can run. The order is still valid as per Govt. of India's Reply in the last Parliament session (Monsoon) to an Un-starred Question no. 2338 on August 7, 2018. So how MD (Acupuncture) course can be started without any amendment of that very clause of the order? For your kind information, this Order is applicable to all over India except West Bengal and Maharashtra.

7. In 2003 order, its amendments in 2015 and reply to the Parliament on 7.8.18. by Central Govt. says Acupuncture is a mode of therapy and can be practiced by any recognized medical graduates having training in Acupuncture and appropriately trained personnel. So it is clear that the subject is not under Yoga & Naturopathy at all. How Acupuncture became a Naturopathic subject it is not understood. Is there any Govt. notification or order which reflects that Acupuncture is a part of Naturopathy ?.

8. Acupuncture may be a subject in BNYS course, but it doesn't mean that the subject become a part of Naturopathy. For example - Physiotherapy (a mode of therapy) also a subject under BNYS course, but it is not possible to start MD Physiotherapy for BNYS students. FSM, PATHOLOGY also taught in BNYS course. So can the University start MD in FSM or Pathology for BNYS student in recent future?

I sincerely hope your esteemed University will take the appropriate step in this regard and reconsider the decision taken by the Board of Studies of your University regarding starting of MD (Acupuncture) course after BNYS.

Thanking you,

Yours Truly,
Sd/-

(Dr. Debasis Bakshi)

Gen. Secy. ASA India

M.B.B.S (Cal), P.G. Certificate in Acupuncture, Nanjing, China

Registered Acupuncturist (Part A) by Council of Acupuncture Therapy, Govt. of West Bengal

**MP (Lok Sabha) to Hon. MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, G.O.I –
on Recognition of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine.**

लक्ष्मीनारायण यादव
LAXMINARAYAN YADAV



संसद सदस्य
(लोक सभा)
Member of Parliament
(Lok Sabha)

July 29, 2018

To
The Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India
New Delhi

Dear Sir,

Subject: Recognition of Acupuncture as an independent System of Medicine and
subsequent inclusion in National Healthcare Delivery System/AYUSH.

With reference to the above-mentioned subject, I wish to draw to your kind attention to
the followings:

Acupuncture system is one of the most important traditional drugless therapies which
is recognized in most of the countries in the world and currently Acupuncture is the
world's second leading health care system after modern medicine. W.H.O. has already
been approved this Acupuncture science after extensive research.

Government of Maharashtra has passed the necessary Act. on Recognition of
Acupuncture as a System of Therapy. Thousands of common people are getting the
benefit of this unique drugless therapy in the independent set up with State & District
level hospitals & other Non-Governmental institutions.

Since 1998, ICMR and Government of India's funding agency (DST, DIT, DRDO)
sponsored on Acupuncture Traditional Diagnosis and Treatment.

Acupuncture System of Medicine has already fulfilled ICMR and Department of Health
Research (DHR) guideline for getting Recognition of a new separate System of
Medicine.

Honorable Prime Minister has kindly insisted on the need of drugless traditional
therapies on various occasions. In continuation of your support for the cause, I
sincerely believe that you will kindly take necessary steps for the Recognition of
Acupuncture as a System of Medicine and subsequent inclusion in National Healthcare
Delivery System / AYUSH System of Medicine. I am sure it will be benefited millions
of Indians and which is in line with our honorable Prime Minister's appeal.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely

LAXMINARAYAN YADAV

**REPLY TO MP – BY Hon. MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, G.O.I –
on Recognition of Acupuncture as an Independent System of Medicine.**



जगत प्रकाश नड्डा
Jagat Prakash Nadda



स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री
भारत सरकार
Minister of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

D.O. No.U.11020/4/2018-HR
(FTS No.3173360)

September 17, 2018

Dear Shri Laxminarayan Yadav ji,

Kindly refer to your letter dated 29.7.2018 requesting to recognise Acupuncture as an independent system of medicine and to subsequently include it in the national healthcare delivery system /AYUSH.

2. I have had the matter examined. I would like to inform you that the issue of recognition of Acupuncture as an independent system of medicine, based on some proposals received to that effect, is already under consideration. Therefore, the question of its inclusion as an independent mode of healthcare in the national healthcare delivery system can be addressed after a view is taken on its recognition as a system of medicine.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Jagat Prakash Nadda)

Shri Laxminarayan Yadav,
Member of Parliament (LS),
4 Windsor Place, Ashoka Road,
NEW DELHI – 110 001.

348, ए-स्कंध, निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली-110011
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Email: hfwminister@gov.in

ASA INDIA HELPS FOR KERALA FLOOD RELIEF
--

According to Kerala Government, one-sixth of the total population of Kerala had been directly affected by the flood and related incidents. The Indian government had declared it a Level 3 Calamity, or Calamity of a severe nature.

To help & support the flood affected people, relief and monetary aid from Govt., NGOs, NPOs, Corporate and Individuals contributed to “Chief Minister’s Distress Relief Fund” for Kerala Flood. Many Members of Parliament, State Legislative Assemblies and Councils, Civil Servants and Govt.& Non Govt. Employees and common people in general across the country & abroad donated funds and relief materials.



Being the largest association representing majority of Acupuncturists of India, Acupuncture Science Association (ASA) India took initiative for fund and material collection to be submitted to “Chief Minister’s Distress Relief Fund for Kerala Flood”.

Accordingly, Rs. 2,76,800 only were collected by ASA India initiative only from 61 Donors representing all walks of life across the country like Acupuncture Hospital patients & staff, general people, well-wishers, different organizations, ASA Members & students etc. We have already deposited to the above mentioned fund of Rs.1 lac through NEFT on 24.8.18 followed by 2nd. installment of a Cheque of Rs. 1 Lac handed over directly to the hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala on 10.10.2018 by Dr. Pradeep Antony and Mrs. Hena on behalf of ASA. We are shortly handing over rest amount of Rs. 76,800 only to the same fund. Apart from financial contribution, we have also handed over different relief materials. We believe our small contribution will definitely help in the management of Kerala flood relief. And we are confident that new light will come which will help to rebuild new Kerala again.

ASA India is grateful for the generous help and cooperation received from the Donors for this noble cause. We sincerely expect this type of patronage in future also.

Dr. Debasis Bakshi, General Secretary, ASA INDIA

Indian Acupuncture Expert Team Visits China

I got the privilege to visit China as the leader of the 10 member Indian Acupuncture expert delegation sponsored by Embassy of Peoples' Republic of China in India, New Delhi. The members of the delegation were Dr. Inderjit Singh (team leader), Dr. Aravind, Dr. Madhu Sudan Agarwal, Dr. Mewa Singh, Dr. Pradeep Antony, Dr. Sahil Kapur, Dr. Chetna Chopra, Dr. John, Dr. Neha Dhingra and Dr. Shonali.

We reached Beijing on 13th Sept. 2018. In the official welcome dinner arranged by Culture Ministry lead by Mr. Zhang and Ms Yang, Chinese acupuncture experts from different leading organizations and representatives from WFAS and researchers were present and discussed various matters of mutual interest.

On 14th Sep., team visited Beijing Traditional Chinese Hospital (estd. in 1956) Dept. of Acupuncture, Moxibustion & Chinese Herbs. About 10,000-12,000 patients visit in OPD daily and 1500 in-patients. There are 10 rooms for acupuncture and Moxibustion separately and every room has its own specialty to treat patient. Each room has 4-5 doctors/ researches/students. First we went to ENT acupuncture department, 22 patients suffering from tinnitus, hard of hearing and deafness. Doctors explained us in detail the diagnosing technique according to TCM and selection of points. We have learned many new techniques and method of manipulation afterwards went to orthopedics dept., patients were treated for joint pains etc. I myself volunteered for Acupuncture to be applied on me. They treated me with new technique for knee pain and the result was very good as I felt my lower extremity relaxed after taking treatment by acupuncture and cupping.

Then we went to Moxibustion wing, very well maintained and we all were surprised to see the new method of Moxibustion. Chinese Doctors were using Moxibustion for orthopedics, neurology, gynecology cases etc. The new technique used was MOXA BED; the whole bed was computerized and was built to treat all diseases. The doctors were very cooperative and explained everything in detail. Then we went to Neurology Dept. where many patients of cerebral palsy, facial palsy, migraine, paralysis taking treatment and doctors explained us everything in detail. After Acupuncture and Moxibustion, we went to Chinese Herbal Dept. Here I want to mention that in India majority of people have misconceptions that Acupuncture is used in combination with Chinese Herbs. But in China each method has its own specialty (Acupuncture, Moxibustion, Cupping, Chinese Herbal). There patients and doctors are very cooperative. Some of patients tried to explain us their condition.

Our visit to Beijing traditional hospital was very fruitful, team gained many new things there. On 14th afternoon, Ministry has set up an agenda for interaction between China and India Acupuncture experts. The introduction from China side was given by Dr Jing Xianghong, Director of International Acupuncture Training Center, Beijing. From India side I got the privilege to explain development of Acupuncture in India and purpose of this visit. Chinese experts shared their researches with us on various gynecological disorders like POI (infertility), endocrine disorders in females, Moxibustion for lipid control and many other.

They have taught us the new technique – Tendon system and use of long blunt needle by Dr. Wang Tong. Dr. Liu Zhaohui explained us very perfectly about “Chinese and Indian traditional medicines sharing common grounds”. Indian delegates also got the privilege to share their views, Dr. Madhusudan shared his experience in treating Glaucoma with Acupuncture and Dr. Neha Dhingra shared the value of Acupuncture for new generation.

Chinese experts praised our efforts. Later there was open discussion for 1 hour and it was very worthy for both the sides. During interaction, Chinese doctors had two main questions – have we tried Acupuncture for other eye diseases and have we done acupuncture after surgery? I shared my experience of eye disorders for which I was having whole history on Retinal Detachment of my patient under treatment of AIIMS New Delhi and at Dr Kotnis Acupuncture Hospital. The whole discussion was very fruitful and many doubts were cleared. Both sides were willing to work jointly, they invited us to participate and set up the research activities. After that we were hosted an Indian meal dinner at a restaurant which was very delicious and there our Chinese friends Mr. Zhang and Ms Yang tried Indian food with hand. All members were very happy to see this.

On 15th Sept. with the consent of all delegates, we went to Gate of Heavenly Peace / Tiananmen Square and Chairmen Mao Zedong hall. This was my second visit to Tiananmen Square, I was surprised and very happy to see the development & marvelous changes done. The young generation in our team came to know about the history of China. We also visited beautiful Forbidden City. After the sightseeing we went to Baoding via High speed train. In train we found the quality and technology very appreciable and no one can feel the movement of train and wheels.

On 16th Sept. in Baoding we went to see traditional centre and then went towards my dream place Dr Kotnis Tomb. We paid our tribute to Dr Kotnis and Dr Basu. We placed a plant there. I was very much happy at that time and was having feeling that my teacher Dr Basu and my father Gyan Sing Dhingra would be very happy today. After that myself and Dr Pradeep explained to our team about the history of Dr Kotnis and Dr Basu in detail, so that others can realize the significance of that great place. This was life time achievement for me given by the embassy and our His Excellency. I have no words to give thanks for this arrangement.

Then we moved to Shanghai, a very beautiful city. The guide there told us about the history of Shanghai. On 18th we went to Shanghai University of TCM. There we had interaction with experts on Optic atrophy and discussion on acupuncture treatment for different diseases. We have also seen the new technology used by them for diagnosis purpose and laser acupuncture. Then we visited OPD, the whole hospital was very well maintained and very beautiful, neat and clean. The members of hospital were very supportive. There I met our common friend Dr S.F Elahee of Bangladesh. Here we had 2 hours interaction with the researchers about Acupuncture, Herbal medicine and ASA activity in India. Doctor told me when your Indian herbal system has so many positive things then why not you want to start research centre in India? I have replied in detail.

On 19th we went to Zhejiang Provincial Hospital of TCM. We have seen Acupuncture and Tunia departments there. The exchange of knowledge was fruitful. Here I got sick, but Ms Yang was very cooperative & caring for my early recovery. On 20th Sept. we visited Lingyin temple, very big and well maintained. In the evening we came back to Beijing. During night travel by bus to our hotel we have the new sight the mountain area of Great wall of China. The views were eye catching. The hotel was looking like a king's palace. On 21st morning we visited a beautifully built village and Great Wall of China.

This whole visit was very historical for me from every angle because I have visited China after 22 years. There are huge changes and big development which I have seen in front of my eyes that how Chinese leadership has turned old China into a beautiful, prosperous New China. Every city we visited was upgrading day by day.

It is really an example to learn that how they have managed to maintain the crowded city and it seems to have no crowd no traffic jams even after heavy traffic and no pollution. Every city was covered with greenery which is eye soothing. When I visited last time there was not much vehicles and buildings but now I can see the number the sedan vehicles making the road glorified and the beautifully built technological buildings making it more glorified. It is very happy to see that all historical and cultural related places were well maintained and attractive for tourism. This is a perfect way to explain the history to young generation which can be carried forever.

Regarding health system in government hospital, the way of providing services was upgraded and young doctors and patients have full faith on traditional mode of therapy. That is the reason that whole world has recognized the Chinese method of treatment. Chinese people are so caring, loving, having friendly nature.

I have made new friends from heart. The hospitality given by Chinese friends was very wonderful they were very cooperative and understanding. Such types of exchange program are needed to be continued forever so that people can become aware about the development and policies of China. I want to mention here - after passing 80 years of Indian Medical Mission to China 1938-1942. Chinese Govt. and Chinese people have full regards for our Dr. Kotnis and Dr Basu. I on behalf of Indian acupuncture expert delegations want to say **thanks to His Excellency Mr Luo Zhaohui Ambassador of Peoples' Republic China in India** for arranging this visit to China. I wish to have a long lasting relationship.

Dr. Inderjit Singh, Director Dr, Kotnis Acupuncture Hospital, Ludhiana, Punjab



Home > Embassy News

The Fifth Acupuncture Science Association National Meet was inaugurated in Delhi

2017/12/16



The Fifth Acupuncture Science Association National Meet was inaugurated on December 16, 2017 in Delhi. Mr. Li Bijian, Minister and DCM of Chinese Embassy in India, was invited as Chief Guest to attend the opening ceremony and deliver a speech. Acupuncturists, experts and scholars from all over India and other countries such as Malaysia and Nepal etc as well as Members of Parliament of India attended the ceremony.

http://in.china-embassy.org/eng/embassy_news/t1521113.htm



ASA India organized National Convention on Recognition of Acupuncture in India & 5th National Meet Delhi Dec. 16 - 2017



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