

UBF Diary

November 2019

THE HIGHEST HONOUR

Dr P Raghu Ram inducted as the 82nd President of the Association of Surgeons of India for 2020



Dr P Raghu Ram being installed as President ASI for 2020 by outgoing President, Prof Arvind Kumar



Some 5000 plus ASI members at 79th Annual Conference of ASI held in Bhubaneswar, December 2019

The year 2020 opened with additional responsibilities for Padma Shri awardee Dr P Raghu Ram, who is also a Dr B C Roy national awardee. He has been instated as the President of the Association of Surgeons of India (ASI), becoming one of the youngest members to be elected to this pivotal position.

All About ASI : Asia Pacific's largest and the world's second largest surgical association

ASI was established in 1938 to realise a long-standing wish among the surgeons in India to join hands to share each other's experiences and enhance their surgical skills. Starting from a humble

Creative leadership and accountable governance shall be my mantra. I wish to be remembered as a 'People's President'

– Dr P Raghu Ram

beginning with 112 members in 1938, the ASI is the world's second largest surgical organisation after The American College of Surgeons (which is the world's largest surgical body).

Widely considered to be the 'voice of surgery' in the country, ASI promotes the art/science of surgery and strives to promote the latest surgical techniques to the remotest parts of the country, in an effort to improve people's lives all over India.

ASI's vast network is reflected in the strong presence of its state chapters and city branches, in 29 states and union territories across India. Additionally, it has 12



specialty sections, comprising of specialist surgeons practising the art and science of breast surgery, onco-surgery, gastrointestinal surgery, laparoscopic/ minimal access surgery, endocrine surgery, genito-urinary surgery, paediatric surgery, plastic surgery, thoracic/ cardiovascular

surgery, trauma/critical care surgery. It also has sections representing rural surgeons and surgeons in the armed forces.

ASI's new President creates a mandate:

Three major priorities as President ASI 2020:

- To focus on providing education and training courses for surgical trainees and practising surgeons to make them better surgeons with a humane touch. In this regard, several courses are being rolled out across the country, in collaboration with world-renowned surgical organisations, for the first time in ASI's history.
- "Hands that serve are holier than the lips that pray" — Focus on community service by ASI state chapters and city branches across the country adopting villages. We all know that India is in its villages. It is my wish therefore that every state chapter/city branch of ASI adopt a village and undertake initiatives that are village-centric for the greater good of the community.
- Establish rapport with the government of India to ensure ASI is actively involved in policy-making matters pertaining to surgery and surgical training.

Message on becoming one of ASI's youngest President:

"I am blessed to have been given this 'once in a life time' rare opportunity. My mission in the upcoming 12 months shall be strategic implementation of my goals to significantly improve surgical care delivery in India.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the members for giving me the biggest ever mandate in ASI's history. I promise to ensure creative leadership and accountable governance in the Association. At the end of my term, I wish to be recognised and remembered as a People's President."

Guest of Honour



Dr P Raghu Ram was guest of honour at the annual conference of the Association of Minimal Access Surgeons of India (AMASI), held in Nagpur on November 7, 2019. He is seen here along with Mr Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister and Dr Prakash Amte, social activist.