

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के तहत सांविधिक निकाय
Statutory Body under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

International Conference on “Nurses and Midwives for Universal Health Coverage(UHC) hosted by INC in collaboration with Jhpiego and Endorsed by International Council of Nurses from 29th November to 1st December,2018 at hotel Eros, Nehru Place New Delhi.

The conference was inaugurated by Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon’ble Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation on ‘Nurses and Midwives for Universal Health Coverage’ endorsed by International Council of Nurses. The theme is aptly chosen to emphasise the significant role of nurses and their contribution towards achieving the target of UHC.

India has also embarked on an ambitious scheme to achieve UHC, through Pradhan Mantri Scheme “Ayushman Bharat Yojana 2018”.

Government of India (GOI) has taken a decisive stride for UHC and has made plans to prepare Mid-level Health care providers to provide promotive and preventive services at these centres.

Aim:

The conference aims at bringing together nurses and midwives from across the globe to explore the strategies, approaches, and best practices to prepare nurse leaders to work within and promote Universal Health Coverage.

The conference provides a platform for presentations of best practices, innovations and research results in Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and nurses’ role in achieving it. It also provides opportunity to explore the scope of inter-professional collaborations, inter-sectoral partnerships and utilization of technology in strengthening the nursing cadre to improve the health outcomes. Delegates from India and abroad are participating in the said conference. The President, Vice- President and 10 other Members of ICN will also participate in the conference. Four plenary sessions and 80 (oral) paper presentations is expected in the conference.

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Striving to achieve uniform standards of Nursing Education

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Inaugural Function on 29th November, 2018

Welcoming the guest and delegates Dr. T. Dileep Kumar, President INC, referred to the theme of the Conference ie. Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and the important roll Nurses have to play in delivering Universal Health Care to the people.

Shri Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry, Chief Guest

“Nursing Now Campaign” was launched by the Chief Guest. The pledge of Nursing Now Campaign was taken by all the delegates.

The chief guest referred to the important role played by Nurses from Birth to Death and noble role played by Nurses in serving humanity.

He stressed that actually Health Care is Human Care and the Nurses have to play critical role in Health Care. Referring to the theme of the Conference i.e. UHC, he drew attention to the Ayushman Bharat Yojana Launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister in providing health care to citizens our country and the importance of quality Nursing Education in this context. He also underlined the role played by INC and its President Dr. T. Dileep Kumar in ushering quality nursing education in India. He also mentioned that Commerce Ministry working on a scheme to facilitate large number of Indian Nurses to work in foreign countries as Nursing is a truly a global profession. He also assured that Government of India will be doing everything to promote nursing profession for health care.

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It was also indicated that a Signature campaign will be taken up in the parliament for the Nursing Now Campaign.

Dr. Annette Kennedy, President, ICN

She has remarked that ICN is having its board meeting for the first time in India and thanked President, INC's role in this and also in organising the conference. She remarked that the Nursing Now campaign should be rather a Nursing forever Campaign. Referring to the challenges worldwide in the Health Sector she underscored the need for various International Organisations like UN, ILO, Jhpiego to work together. She also referred to the Nursing Now Campaign it will be coinciding the 200th Birth Anniversary Year of Florence Nightingale.

Dr. Leslie, President, Jhpiego

She remarked that she is a Nurse first and the President, Jhpiego later. She noted that Jhpiego has been working closely with Indian Nursing Council (INC) Government of India in tackling the health challenges in India and underscored the importance of nursing education in achieving UHC. She also lauded the effort of INC and its President in ushering in quality nursing education in India. She also stressed the need for collaboration of all concerned agencies in achieving UHC.

Dr. Amit Arun Shah, President USAID

He remarked that for five decades USAID has been associated with Government of India and other agencies in the Health programme. He also referred their relevance of the topic of the conference i.e. UHC and the importance of strengthening the Nursing cadre to achieve this. He underscored the need to take

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all the required steps for nursing professional to get the required respect it deserves.

Shri Ganesh Singh & Shri Kirit Premjibhai Solanki Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)

President, INC was thanked for organising this conference and the importance of the topic of the conference i.e. UHC. It was mentioned that nowhere else in the world a scheme of the magnitude of Ayushman Bharat Yojana covering 50 crore people have been attempted. The importance of the requirement of the availability of the trained nurses and hence of nursing education was underlined. President, INC and its staff were congratulated for organising two International Conferences (BRICS & ICN) within two months. INC's efforts is to create the Live Register of Nurses through NRTS Project was also lauded.

It was also mention that Ayushman Bharat Yojana initiated by Prime Minister which is popularly known as Modi Care is similar to Obama Care initiated by Mr. Obama the Erstwhile US President.

The Hon'ble MP's also indicated that a Signature campaign will be taken up in the parliament for the Nursing Now Campaign.

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ICN

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) is a federation of more than 130 National Nurses Associations (NNAs), representing more than 20 million nurses worldwide. Founded in 1899, ICN is the world's first and widest reaching international organisation for health professionals. Operated by nurses and leading nurses internationally, ICN works to ensure quality nursing care for all, sound health policies globally, the advancement of nursing knowledge, and the presence worldwide of a respected nursing profession and a competent and satisfied nursing workforce.

ICN is the permanent Invitee to World Health Assembly organised by World Health Organisation (WHO) which meets every year in Geneva where all countries Health Ministers, Health Secretaries & Director, General Secretaries attend this World Health Assembly. This Assembly discusses issue on Health. ICN is having an opportunity to intervene while passing with world Health Assembly resolution during World Health Assembly. Recently i.e. in 2016 effective intervention was made by ICN with regard to resolution passed by World Health Assembly on Human Resource for Health 2030.

As per the Statement of Director General WHO Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus “The World faces a shortfall of 18 million health workers needed to achieve and certain Universal Health Coverage by 2030 more than half of that (8 million) shortfalls is Nurses and Midwives”.

WHO Global Strategy on **Human Resource for Health Workforce 2030** adopted by Member State in 2016 proposes a framework for making the most effective use of health workers and developing countries specific investment plans to address workforce strategies.

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This is an urgent need of reviewing Nursing staffing norms in India and to work for recruit Nurses as per norms so that they can provide qualitative Health session with an ultimate objective of addressing the UHC.

ICN is having global voice at the global level. Every year ICN organises International Nurses Day with a specific theme advice the Member Committee to work towards in Development of Nurses & Midwives.

ICN Board is represented 14 Members Annette Kennedy President (Ireland), Pamela Cipriano First Vice President (USA), Thembeke Gwagwa Second Vice President (South Africa), Sung Rae Shin Third Vice President (South Korea), Fatima Al Rifai (Emirates), Loannis Leontiou (Cyprus), Karen Bjoro (Norway), Brigita Skela Savic (Slovenia), Roswitha Koch (Switzerland), Maria Eulalia Juve (Spain), Lisa Little (Canada), Erika Caballero (Chile), Lian-Hua Huang (Taiwan), Wu Ying (China) who are elected at the global level. For the first time, ICN Board Member are coming to India and holding their ICN Board meeting in India from 2nd to 4th December 2018. India is not a Member of ICN Board. It is an opportunity for Indian Nurses and Midwives to meet International Council of Nurses (ICN) Board Members and to interact with them. During this period Board Member will be utilised as Speakers in the various session.

Relevance of the topic of the Conference ie:-UHC in the Indian Context.

It is pertinent to note here that India is embarking on the ambitious target of achieving Universal Health Coverage for all its citizens and Ayushman Bharat Yojana has been launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to achieve this vision. This initiative has been designed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals set by UN where the underlying commitment is to "leave no one behind." It focuses on providing Nursing plays an important role to achieve the target of Universal Health Coverage and the conference will provide a platform for Nurses from Various Countries to share their country's policy and plans for achieving the universal Health Coverage and will help in throwing new light on the problems being faced by other countries in meeting the challenge of Universal Health Coverage.

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