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## **IMA forms the National Alliance of Medical Professionals on Antimicrobial Resistance (NAMP-AMR)**

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) has taken a significant step forward in the battle against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) by hosting the inaugural National Alliance of Medical Professionals on Antimicrobial Resistance (NAMP-AMR). This pioneering initiative saw participation from leaders and representatives of 52 medical speciality organizations/associations from across the Nation, converging on a unified platform to strategize against this important health crisis.

The meeting opened with an address from Dr Narendra Saini (Chairman, IMA AMR), who underscored the silent pandemic of AMR threatening the Nation. "AMR poses a significant threat to the health of our Nation. In 2019, there were 2,97,000 deaths attributable to AMR and 10,42,500 deaths associated with AMR in our country. The formation of NAMP-AMR by Indian Medical Association marks the beginning of a concerted National effort to tackle this crisis head-on," stated Dr. Saini.

Dr. R.V. Asokan, National President of IMA, reassured the NAMP delegates of IMA's unwavering commitment to curb AMR. "This historic day is a testament to what we can achieve together. IMA is ready to render its full support to the Government and is committed to leading by example on the Global stage in the fight against AMR," he declared.

The Chief Guest Dr. VK Paul from NITI Aayog, affirmed the Government's commitment to addressing Antimicrobial Resistance, stating that the Government is not only willing but also ready to work in that direction. He expressed the concern that neglecting AMR could severely impact Viksit Bharat, setting back our prosperity, GDP, and various health aspects. He highlighted that the Government is developing a National Action Plan (NAP) 2.0 for AMR, and appreciated this IMA's initiative of NAMP-AMR, describing it as the right step in the right direction. Dr. VK Paul emphasized the necessity of uniting all organizations under one banner to turn this into a National movement. He outlined six critical pillars in this battle: Education & Awareness, Promoting the use of Diagnostics, Role of Prevention, Judicious use of Antibiotics, Research & Development, and Governance & Collaboration. Dr. VK Paul expressed confidence that the NAMP-AMR by IMA is a unique global initiative and stressed the importance of setting specific targets to reduce mortality from AMR and curb the inappropriate use of antibiotics in both humans and animals.

Dr Atul Goel, Director General of Health Services, highlighted the critical need for enhanced medical education and training. "Understanding when and how to use antibiotics



# INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (HQs.)

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effectively is important. Strengthening our medical education will help in improving the quality of medical practice. We need to start from basics," he noted.

Ms. Payden, Deputy Head of WHO India, articulated the Global urgency of addressing AMR, projecting it as the potential leading cause of death by 2050. She highlighted the recent endorsements from the World Health Assembly and stressed the importance of a collaborative approach to this global threat. "Each Medical Association and Organization should strive to be a Champion of AMR," said Ms. Payden. Dr Anuj Sharma, Team focal point for AMR & IPC, WHO thanked all the 52 medical organizations/associations who came together for the formation of NAMP-AMR.

The National Alliance of Medical Professionals on AMR represents a unified commitment to address one of the most pressing health emergencies of our time. Through collaborative efforts, strategic planning, and governmental support, the IMA's NAMP-AMR initiative aims to lead the way in Global efforts to mitigate the impact of Antimicrobial Resistance.

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