

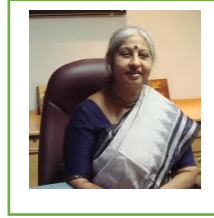


Indian Speech and Hearing Association (ISHA)

Regd. Under the Kamataka Societies Registration Act. Karnataka Act No. 17 Registration No. 25/67-68

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Presented by



DR. VIJAYALAKSHMI BASAVARAJ

2007, CALICUT

Respected Dignitaries on the dais, ISHA members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please accept my sincere thanks for giving me this life time opportunity to be the President of ISHA for the year 2007. I seek the mercy and blessings of the ALMIGHTY to render sincere service to the Association. I seek the guidance of my predecessors, cooperation of the office bearers and the love of the ISHA members.

ISHA, which held the hands of the Indian Association of the Otolaryngologists to hold its annual conferences till 1974, is independently and successfully carrying on its activities for more than 3 decades now. Many students of the first couple of batches have celebrated their 60th birthdays. ISHA is proud to have several eminent members who have occupied very prestigious and responsible positions both at home and abroad. However, ISHA as an organization is yet to have a “Voice” at the national level.

How did organizations like Red Cross Society, Rotary and Lion Club become so strong and eminent? In my opinion, they have gained eminence not because they demanded recognition but because of their sincere service to the needy. They serve the needy without any invitation. They focus on their goals. Their vision is clear. Their mission is spelt out well. The issue of service to person with communication disorders cannot be sidelined in the vision of ISHA too. I strongly



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believe that if we define our identity and our commitment to the society, we would be able to trend on the path of our mission successful.

The scope of studies, services and research in the area of Speech and Hearing has widely expanded. The profession which was identified with rehabilitation of persons with hearing impairment alone has grown over these 40 years to attain specialization and super specialization. Meaningful communication and collaboration with other related professionals have paved way to recognize our own identity. Our role as Speech, Language and Hearing professionals is emerging clearly without any inferiority complex and unhealthy competitions. We have learnt a lot being a part of other associations and councils. We would further learn by continuing to be a part of them. However, it is time that we have our own council. A Speech and Hearing council would enable us to address the issues of our profession as well as our clients in a more effective way. ISHA seeks support and guidance of RCI, MCI the Nursing Council and other organizations and councils in achieving this goal.

The Government of India is in the verge of launching of National program of Prevention and control of Deafness. The fact that the nation is considering launching such a program is very encouraging. We have a big role to play in the program irrespective of whether we are officially in it or out of it. It is time that we focus on and address the national issues concerning persons with communications disorders. We should promote and actively participate in the implementation of Persons with Disability Act, National Trust Act and the latest National Program of Prevention and Control of Deafness. Let our services, be it in the Government Sector or private sector, be the testimony to our commitment to the objectives of ISHA. Let us be proactive in supporting these programs. The recognition of the association and the council will then automatically follow.

During my tenure as the president of ISHA in the year 2007, and in the future years of ISHA, let us join hand in working towards forming our own council and take active part in the national programs concerning persons with communication disorders.



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On behalf of ISHA as well as on my personal behalf, I would like to thank the Chairman and the members of the Organizing committee for the invitation extended to us for holding this conference in this beautiful city of Calicut and this celestial Kadavu Resort.

Thank you.