

PROCEEDINGS OF 10TH ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF AOPMEF

VENUE: Hotel The Empires, Baliapanda, Puri

Date – 19 December, 2021-12-21

Time – 10 am to 4 PM

The Tenth Annual General Body Meeting of All Odisha Private Medical Establishment Forum was held on 19th December, 2021 at ‘The Empires Hotel’, Puri. Fifty eight members of different districts attended the AGM. The dignitaries on dais were President, Dr. Subrat Jena; Advisor and past President, Dr. Ajoy Kumar Mishra; Secretary, Dr. Indramani Jena; Treasurer, Dr. Debadatta Kumar Sahu and Organising Secretary, Er. Rajesh Kumar Mishra.

The Meeting started with lighting the lamp and garlanding Trinity Lords, Lord Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra. Bouquet was presented to the dignitaries on dais. Then self introduction of members present in the hall was held for all 58 members who joined the meet starting from dais to last bench.

President called the 10th AGM to order.

In his introductory speech he stressed upon the importance of private parties in governance as a whole and the role played by private hospitals or Clinical Establishments in healthcare provision scenario of the nation. More than 70% of healthcare load is met by private sector. He thanked the local Organising Secretary, Er. Rajesh Mishra for the way Puri Branch of AOPMEF had organised the show. He recapitulated how all Clinical Establishments of Odisha faced a grave crisis in 2016 and assembled in IMA Institute, Bhubaneswar and formed the All Odisha Private Medical Establishment Forum comprising of all Clinical Establishments and merging all district level associations. The emergency situation was fire and in that situation, one private institution faced a grave crisis and its chairman was taken to custody. This Forum has great significance in any policy formulation by Government as it is a stakeholder in most of Government sponsored programmes. He stressed upon the importance of Indian Medical Association for its formidable role in shaping public orientation and influence on health policies of Government. There must be intimate relationship of AOPMEF with IMA at all levels.

Our past President and present Advisor, Dr. Ajoy Kumar Mishra addressed the gathering starting his prayer to Lord Jagannath. He emphasized on the triumph of unity of all members of AOPMEF in overcoming the crises that had jeopardises functioning of private hospitals. He cited the importance of IMA and its policies, one example is membership of Hospital Board of India that facilitates so many advantages and accreditations. One thing Dr. Mishra

stressed is 'Bed reservation by government for BSKY purpose' as it has occurred in recent past for Covid-19 management.

Then Secretary, Dr. Indramani Jena presented the proceedings of last 9th GB and the decisions taken therein. He also thanked Private Hospitals taking a leading role in Covid-19 management in Odisha. He enumerated some present problems like interference of Covid-19 for poor progress of membership, communication and frequent petition to Government on different issues like non-involving AOPMEF in different insurance schemes like BSKY. That is a cause of hopelessness of the forum.

The Treasurer of forum, Dr. Debadatta Kumar Sahu presented the accounts of AOPMEF and emphasized on enhancing membership drive. He stressed on district branches for highlighting what is AOPMEF and its policies to private hospitals in their locality. That will be attract for membership. He also discussed on some policies of BSKY and rate difference from neighbouring states.

Organising Secretary of 10th AGM, Er. Rajesh Mishra stressed upon the fact that the worst sufferer in present day Government policies is private hospitals with less than 50 beds. He stressed upon enhancing membership. Secondly he pointed out heavy arrears of expired RSBY scheme and requested senior members to resolve the issue. He cited one incidence how small hospitals are victimised on exposing the issue of arrears. Thirdly, he stated the high amount of rate for different diseases in neighbouring states like Andhra, Chhatishgarh and West Bengal assurance schemes compared to Odisha. He requested for a Fact Finding Committee that will rapidly resolve the difference.

Then came floor participation of members in different issues:

Dr. Rabindra Kuma Pradhan emphasized on benefits of our Forum. We can influence the policies of the Government policy formulation. The programme BKKY is an example when it was standstill for its unsuitability and our preventive action. He focussed on how medical profession is on growth after Covid-19 and RBI releases loan to doctors at cheaper rate.

Dr. Suresh Agrawal stressed upon abolition of Referral and Reserve system followed in present BSKY scheme. He focussed on low payment on many diseases. The example cited by him was Fracture of Femur. Many unnecessary documents are asked for. Required investigations are not covered by the scheme. The district co-ordinator need to be convinced on the gravity of cases, investigations and payments.

Dr. KC Mohanty expressed certain basic items like they have been operating more than 5000 cases of cataract annually and performing so much philanthropic activities. Private Hospitals, as catering the healthcare needs of the nation, at their own cost, should not be tasked by number of taxes and dues rather they should be remunerated.

Dr. Subash Chandra Sahu stressed upon membership drive. He stressed the meagre amount of provision for any medical case, Rs. 1800/-. He expressed he does not understand the restrictive policy of Government of Odisha in imposing Referral and Reserve category of cases. A case may lose his valuable hours of treatment by such bureaucratic delay.

Dr. Srikanta Soren from Keonhar stressed upon difficulty of registration of Clinical Establishment in interior tribal districts, Waste management and Fire Certification were still major issues even in small set-ups.

Dr. Trilochan Das from Sun Shine Hospitals gave priority on importance of documentation in Clinical Establishment setting. Mr. B.K. Das from Khordha revealed the deficiency of GNM for private hospital setting. Sri Annada Routray from Cuttack stressed upon some unnecessary documents wanted by BSKY schemes at the time of releasing payment. He revealed how Municipal Corporation of Cuttack charges additional User Fees upon private hospitals not seen elsewhere. Dr. Pyarilal Tripathy pointed out that we must spread the ideology of AOPMEF far and wide for membership. He suggested there are drawbacks in BSKY and we must present these to Government. Sri M.C Pradhan stressed upon arrears of RSBY, withdrawal of Referral System and issue of Membership Card by AOPMEF. Dr. Pradip Kumar Nayak remembers the tragedy of non-registration encountered by 2016-17. He also pointed out how Government Hospitals do not have any protocol for fire or pollution. Dr. Mohanlal Jain also revealed difficulties of BSKY and about ICUs in less than 30 bedded setting.

The resolution was to enumerate the difficulties of BSKY to SHAS, Government and Chief Minister. The arrear claims of CEs on RSBY and BSKY are to be presented before SHAS.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Dr. Indramani Jena

(Secretary, AOPMEF)