Dear Esteemed Members of ISG

Our greetings

Though this News Letter, we wish to update you on the activities of ISG. We also take this opportunity to invite abstracts for ISG and applications for various awards and orations for the year 2017.

First of all, we want to congratulate immediate past secretary and immediate past president of our society, Dr S P Misra, for his untiring efforts over the past 7 years as Secretary General and past one year as the President and the officiating secretary general. With his wisdom and efforts over these years, our society became stronger including achieving financial stability. The new Governing Council of ISG has now taken over led by Dr T S Chandrasekar as the President, and Dr Govind Makharia as the Secretary General.

New Website of ISG (www.isg.org.in)

The ISG has launched its new website, in May 2017, with a new look and interactive features. We aim to make the website efficient to allow a two-way communication between the ISG and its members. May we request you to please have a look at the website and we are looking forward to receive your kind suggestions and feedbacks.

ISG Annual Conferences

ISGCON 2016
The 57th annual conference of ISG was held at New Delhi between December 15-18,2016. You all will agree with us that the ISGCON 2016 was planned very well and the event was a grand success. The Delhi Chapter of the ISG, Dr Randhir Sud (Chairman, local Organizing Committee), Dr Rajesh Puri, Dr. Neeraj Saraf and their team deserve special thanks and cheers for their untiring efforts. We hope, you all enjoyed the scientific sessions and the warm hospitality of the organizing team. Like previous years, this year too we ran three parallel academic sessions throughout the meeting. The feedback from the faculty and the attendees of the conference is really very heartening and encouraging.
ISGCON 2017

The 58th Annual Conference of ISG will be held at Bhubaneswar, Odisha between December 14 - 17, 2017 at Mayfair Convention Center, Bhubaneswar. The Organizing Secretary, Dr Kedarnath Panda has already sent the first circular that you all would have received by now. The local organizing team, in coordination with the ISG Governing Council, is working and setting a stage for yet another grand conference. The scientific program is being developed. Many International Faculty have already sent their consent for their participation in the congress. Please visit the conference website http://www.isgcon2017.com for more details and updates. You can also send an Email to Local Organizing Committee on isgcon2017@gmail.com.

Please note that the abstracts are to be submitted on the website of the society www.isg.org.in.

ISGCON 2018 and ISGCON 2019

ISGCON 2018 will be held in Cochin. Dr Mathew Philip will be the chairman for the Local Organizing Committee. The dates of the conference and other details will follow in due course. ISG has been awarded to hold Asia Pacific Digestive Week 2019. The ISGCON 2019 will be held along with Asia Pacific Digestive Week in Kolkata. Dr Mahesh Goenka will be the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee.

Bidding for ISGCON 2020

Bids for ISGCON 2020 will be invited in 2018. The State Chapters of ISG can apply for the ISG annual conferences. The bids must be cleared and supported by the respective State chapter. The last date for the submission of the application for hosting ISGCON 2018 is Aug 30, 2018. The application form is being put on the ISG website along with the guidelines for bidding and holding of the ISGCON. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to make a short presentation highlighting the adequacy of the facilities and infrastructure for hold a conference of more than 2000 participants. The presentation will be made at the valedictory function of ISGCON 2018. If no suitable bid is received by the Society, then the Governing Council of ISG will put forward a suitable venue.

Submission of abstracts for ISGCON 2017

Abstract submission for ISGCON 2017 is now open. Please note that abstracts for ISGCON 2017 are to be submitted on-line at the ISG website (www.isg.org.in). May we also request you to please send a copy of your abstract, as an attachment, to an email to secretary@isg.org.in

The deadline for abstract submission is 31st July 2017.

ISG Elections

Announcement for ISG elections 2017:

Elections will be held this year for the following posts:
1. President Elect (One)
2. Treasurer (One)
3. Governing Council members (Two)
Dr Naresh Bhat, the President Elect, will conduct the elections for the year 2017. The process and the details of ISG elections will be available on the ISG website. The process will be notified soon.

**Eligibility criteria for the post of President Elect and Treasurer:**

Members of ISG, who have served ISG as Governing Council Members for three years, are eligible to apply for the posts of President Elect and the Treasurer. Any member of ISG is eligible to apply for the post of Governing Council Member.

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**ISG Awards and Orations**

Our Society confers many awards and orations. The decision about the ISG orations is taken one year in advance, so that orations can be delivered by the Awardees during the ISGCON of the particular year. The Awardees of ISG Orations for ISGCON 2017 have already been announced.

**Awardees of 2016**

Three stalwarts of our Society, namely Dr Philip Abraham (Mumbai), Dr DN Reddy (Hyderabad), and Dr Randhir Sud (New Delhi) were conferred with the prestigious ISG-FP Antia Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr TS Chandrasekhar (Chennai) delivered the prestigious ISG-PN Chuttani oration. The ISG-CM Habibullah Oration was delivered by Dr DN Reddy (Hyderabad) and the ISG-Zydus-Alidac oration was delivered by Dr SP Singh (Cuttack). The ISG-SR Naik Memorial award was bagged by Dr Govind Makharia for the best publications in the year 2015-16. The ISG-Om Prakash Award went to Dr Amit Dutta.

**Awardees of ISG Orations to be delivered during ISGCON 2017**

Dr SK Yachha will deliver ISG-PN Chuttani Oration. Dr Chetna Vaishnavi (Chandigarh) will deliver ISG-CM Habibullah Oration and Dr Govind K Makharia will deliver ISG-Zydus-Alidac Oration.

**Invitation for ISG Awards and Orations**

Applications/nominations are invited for ISG Orations, namely ISG-PN Chuttani Oration, ISG-CM Habibullah Oration and ISG-Zydus Alidac Oration. These orations will be delivered during ISGCON 2018 in Kochi.

Applications are also invited for ISG Awards namely ISG-SR Naik Memorial Award, and ISG-Om Prakash award.

The details of the award including eligibility criteria, process of making and submission of application is available on ISG Website (www.isg.org.in). The last date of applications of all the orations and awards is July 31, 2017.
ISG-Taskforces

As you are aware that ISG has constituted many Task Forces for collection of relevant data and to develop national practice guidelines for certain chronic diseases including GERD, IBS, IBD malabsorption, and UGI bleed. After completion of data collection from around the country and making of Indian guidelines on the diagnosis and management of ulcerative colitis and Crohn’s disease, the IBD Task Force has taken yet another activity to make Indian guidelines on the imaging of small intestine in patients with Crohn’s disease.

Under the leadership of Dr SP Singh and Dr Manoj Sahu, the ISG Taskforce on GI Bleeding is collecting the data from around the country. Similarly, Dr Shobna Bhatia is spearheading another project to describe endoscopic characteristics in patients with GERD.

Two new task forces of ISG is now being developed namely ISG Task Force on Dyspepsia and ISG Task force on colorectal cancer in India.

May we solicit enthusiasm and active participation of members of ISG in these national efforts to know a bit more about these diseases in our country. Interested members may contact the Chairman and the coordinator of respective task forces. The ISG website is being updated about the ISG Task Forces.

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<tr>
<th>Task Forces</th>
<th>Chairpersons/chairpersons</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISG-IBD Task Force</td>
<td>Dr BS Ramakrishna (<a href="mailto:wurama@hotmail.com">wurama@hotmail.com</a>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr Philip Abraham (<a href="mailto:dr_pabraham@hindujahospital.com">dr_pabraham@hindujahospital.com</a>)</td>
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<td>Dr Govind Makharia (<a href="mailto:isg.ibd@gmail.com">isg.ibd@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<td>ISG-GERD Task Force</td>
<td>Dr Shobna Bhatia (<a href="mailto:shobna.bhatia@gmail.com">shobna.bhatia@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISG-IBS Task Force</td>
<td>Dr Uday Ghoshal (<a href="mailto:udyaghoshal@gmail.com">udyaghoshal@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISG-GI Bleed Task Force</td>
<td>Dr SP Singh (<a href="mailto:spsingh.cuttack@gmail.com">spsingh.cuttack@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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Development of Indian Guidelines

The ISG Task Force on IBD invited Indian Radiological and Imaging Association (IRIA) to develop joint guidelines on imaging of small intestine in patients with Crohn’s disease, which they agreed readily. The team of IRIA was lead by Dr Raju Sharma, Professor, Radiology, AIIMS. Following the Delphi process, the joint ISG-IRIA guidelines on imaging of small intestine in patients with Crohn’s disease has already been developed. The guidelines will be presented during ISGCON 2017. The manuscript of the guidelines is now in the final stage of its preparation.

The development of guidelines on the diagnosis and management of H pylori is also under process under leadership of Dr SP Singh (Cuttack).
ISG Travel fellowships - APDW 2017

ISG is pleased to announce 10 International Travel fellowships to its members to attend Asia Pacific Digestive Week 2017 to be held in Hong Kong from September 23-27, 2017. Of these, 5 fellowships will be awarded exclusively to Young Gastroenterologists (< 37 years) and 5 to the senior members of the Society. The eligibility criteria for selection is as follows:

- She/he should be a member of ISG
- Has submitted an abstract and abstract has been accepted.
- Has demonstrated consistent commitment to Gastroenterology, as assessed by applicant's biography

Selection of the travel fellowship will be done by a panel of judges. Preference will be given to those who have not obtained a travel fellowship from the ISG in the past 5 years and have no financial support from any other source. Aspiring applicants should send copies of their submitted abstracts, biography, and photocopy of their passports to the secretariat by July 31, 2017.

ISG will announce the names of successful applicants through its website and by personal Email by Aug 15, 2017. A total support amount of Rs 50,000 will be provided to those selected, on their return and on furnishing of the following: evidence of attendance, receipt of registration fees, original air-ticket jackets with boarding card and report of their learning experience.

Updating of Emails, phone and addresses of ISG members

When ISG was born in 1960 and thereafter, the main modus of communication between ISG and its members had been postal letters. Now we all know that a communication between a Society and its members is better and faster via Email/phone or through website. Although ISG is now a strong body of approximately 2400 members, ISG has not been able to communicate with its members very efficiently, mainly because of lack of Email IDs and phone numbers of its members. Of 2400 members of ISG, we have valid Email IDs of only 700. A lot of efforts have been made over past many years to update the latest addresses including Email IDs and phone numbers of the members, only a partial success has been achieved so far. We are still trying to update the communication addresses through various sources, we are not sure, if we will be able to get a complete success, without the active participation of members of the society.

May we request you all that please send your latest address (Name, complete address including Pin, Email Id and Phone, both landline and cell phone) by an Email to secretary@isg.org.in We are creating a facility on the website through a pop up window, where you can update the your latest details and send that to us.
State Chapters of ISG

There has been a lack of communication between the State chapters of ISG with their parent organization. We look forward for an active communication with the state chapters of ISG. May we request the present governing council/executive bodies of each state chapter to please provide to us about the following:

1. Names, emails and phone numbers of the executive members (President, Secretary, Treasurer and other members).
2. The activities undertaken in this year
3. Photograph, images of the events

All the relevant information will be uploaded on ISG webpage. We have created an icon ‘State Chapter’ on the ISG webpage to highlight the activities of the state chapters.

We further request all the state chapters to send to us the information about the mid-term ISG conferences or any other activity taken by them, which can be uploaded on the ISG website for more wider visibility.

Academic Activities of ISG

As you are aware, ISG holds two academic program namely Young Clinician’s Program and Gastroenterology Young Masters for trainees in Gastroenterology for the past 9 years.

The dates of next YCP will be announce soon.

The dates for GYM will be announced in the due course.

The Governing Council of ISG has already approved a new program of training for mid level gastroenterologist with academic bent of mind. This program is named Train the Trainers. The Indian TTT will be launched this year.

Upcoming Conferences

We will update the members of the society through the ISG website about activities taken by ISG or other organization where ISG is a member of International organizations such as World Gastroenterology Organization or Asia Pacific Association of Gastroenterology

Upcoming Conferences: May we draw your attention towards the following conferences:

1. Mid-term ISG conference will be held in Chennai from July 15-16, 2017; Organizing Chairperson: Dr TS Chandrasekhar, President ISG

2. International Celiac Disease Symposium: The 17th ICDS will be held in (Hotel Le-Meridien) New Delhi between 08-10 September, 2017; Organizing Chairperson Dr Govind K Makharia

Website: [http://www.icds2017india.com](http://www.icds2017india.com), Email ID : secretariat@icds2017india.com
3. **ISGCON 2017**: 58th Annual Conference ISG will be held at Bhubaneswar, between December 14 – 17, 2017 at Mayfair Convention, Bhubaneswar Organizing Secretary Dr Kedarnath Panda

Website: [http://www.isgcon2017.com](http://www.isgcon2017.com), Email ID: isgcon2017@gmail.com

### Gastroenterology, Liver and Endoscopy Clinics:

May we request all the members of the Society to please send interesting and innovative cases and endoscopic videos for consideration for their inclusion in three one hour sessions namely, Clinics in Gastroenterology, Clinics in Liver Diseases and Endoscopic videos, during ISGCON 2017, to be held in Bhubaneswar. The presenters of the selected cases and videos will be invited as the faculty during ISGCON 2017. Please send in your interesting cases and endoscopic videos by Aug 31, 2017.

### ASGE Membership:

The trainee Gastroenterologists have been offered membership of American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy at a nominal rate. Please visit ISG website for more details.

Best regards,

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**Govind K Makharia**  
Secretary General  
Indian Society of Gastroenterology

**T S Chandrasekar**  
President  
Indian Society of Gastroenterology