



Bombay to Bangkok - The  
APRM Experience Page 3



## National General Assembly Mumbai 2016



*A page from the MSA India - NGA 2016 Invitation Package*

Coming from the lands of a blazing sun, Rajasthan, the sea-breeze that greeted me at the airport was quite a pleasant change. I had finally set foot in Mumbai! Two hours of a taxing taxi-ride later, I reached the grounds of DY Patil University – the venue of NGA 2016.

The halls were crowded with participants (over 400 of them!), each ushered around by a team of volunteers into their Pre-GA sessions. It was a system structured around small, facilitated workshops and presentations that allowed participants to conduct a practical discussion. Around twenty selfies later, and a couple of new friends by my side, I went to my designated Pre-GA workshop- 'Medical Ethics and Human Rights'. There was a nervous air about the room, fifty strange faces, all nervy and quiet.

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## Through The Lens



*Smiles galore! ...2016, D.Y. Patil Stadium, Mumbai*

# The Leap Ahead

We have all come a long way. We have each travelled different paths, walked through different doors. Journeys that lie ahead of us differ in many an aspect. Yet, we share one vision: empowerment of the medical student. All of us strive to become good learners, adept doctors and better human beings. The Medical Students Association of India has united us under one banner. We now reside in a holistic environment—an established social edifice constructed purely for this purpose— And while we wander the bylanes of the organisation, a question pops up— What next?

The world is never short of shortcomings. The field of medicine, too, hasn't escaped this rule of nature. For every day we see the light of, there emerges a new problem, a new obstacle. In India, there are over a billion people to cater to and as medical students, there's much to do here. But to tackle that sheer volume of problems, even with a huge workforce like ours, would put one in a quandary. The solution wouldn't be targeting empty goals. A foolish venture perhaps; taking shots in the dark and hoping that somewhere down the line one's activity would click. What we need is an organised, systematic approach.

With a new staff elected this year at the National General Assembly (NGA), MSAI aims to reinforce its current structure and incorporate creative modifications into its compositional fabric. In fact, the theme of NGA this year was 'Capacity Building'— a mission destined to be adopted for the coming term. This includes a boosted institutional upgrade as well as an active human resource development network. The year to come shall witness a state of a developmental metamorphosis of the organisation; a change planned to not only be exemplary, but sustainable in nature as well.

The Publication Support Division, too, is on a similar quest. Here, we bring to our readers a quick look-see into the organisation so that they, too, may stay in tune with the latest of updates. With the previous edition of Fenestra having toured Malta this March, along with our annual magazine MSAI Vani, we hope to deliver with crisp precision, time and again. As I write this, my team prepares for this newsletter's journey to the August Meeting 2016 (Mexico) of the IFMSA.

While we cross borders in print, let us all do the same in thought. Let us break the virtual barriers that constrain our imagination. Let us, for every problem, think of a solution. A solution that is a favourable alternative to the orthodox methods of retreat. Let us think creatively; raise a voice— in favour of what takes us ahead, and against what holds us back. Let us work with such ardour so as to inspire the world, the community within— be it our spectators, our followers, our leaders— but most importantly, ourselves. With a promise to deliver this inspiration where it is needed the most, here's presenting to you the Second Edition of Fenestra – The Window Into MSAI.

**Arshiet Dhamnaskar**  
Publication Support Division Director

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# Bombay to Bangkok - The APRM Experience

The Annual International Federation of Medical Students Associations' Asia Pacific Regional Meet was held at Bangkok, Thailand from 31st May to 9th June which was a great platform for medical students from all over the region to hone their capabilities, discuss their projects and understand health from a local as well as global perspective with the objective of building skills and network. This was justified by various Standing Committee Specific Training Sessions so that the delegates will be able to develop and implement health programs within the member countries. In short, APRM was a compact yet a full-fledged meet no less than any international meet. From endless sessions to a massive multicultural adventure, APRM gave us an unforgettable experience. The theme of the event this year was 'Economic Medicine and Rational Health Care' which is a modern dimension of our community medicine curriculum. APRM 2016 was fully equipped with various training programs during the Pre session such as Women Reproductive Health and Safe Abortion, Training New Human Rights Trainer, Training New Trainers and Global Health within Exchanges.

The Indian delegates representing MSAI, Mubasshir Babar, the former National Officer on Reproductive Health including AIDS and Mokshada Sharma, former National Exchange Officer, attended the Training New Human Rights Trainer and the Global Health within Exchanges respectively.

While Mokshada attended the Presidential Sessions, Mubasshir diligently attended all the SCORA ones.

Mokshada also acted as the Secretary of Plenary at APRM 2016 - where a new bylaw was passed stating that all the countries attending APRM will have voting rights and will also be able to host the APRM in their own countries irrespective of their membership status at the IFMSA - And from MSAI, Mubasshir Babar was given the honor of taking the responsibility of the Voting Card at this APRM.

All in all, it was a very productive Regional Meet and our two delegates came back with huge smiles on their faces and with loads of stories to tell. Both ended their memoirs with the same words, echoing what the Regional Director of Asia Pacific said,

"This event didn't last forever, but the memories it created, they do."



# Beat the Heat

India being a tropical country is known for its scorching heat and the summer of 2016 has taken its toll on the Indian population. The standing committee for public health conducted an awareness programme "Beat the Heat" against heat related illnesses. The programme was conducted for around 60 to 70 construction site workers from two construction sites at Mahantesh Nagar, **Bangalore**.

Before the event started a pre event questionnaire was given to the audience to assess the existing knowledge about heat related illnesses and the protective measures against them. After that the concept of heat related illnesses and the extent to which it affects the Indian population were explained. The audience were educated about the warning signs and preventive measures for stroke, exhaustion, cramps, rashes, sunburn and other heat hazards. This session was made interesting by explanations with charts and pictorial presentations. This was followed by a demonstrative session for preparing homemade ORS. The importance of ORS, its advantages over water, and the disadvantages of alcohol consumption in hot weather were explained. Free ORS packets were also distributed at the end of the session.

The event concluded with a photo shoot. Post event questionnaire were given to assess the effectiveness of the session. The event had a great response and many workers took ORS to their workplace from the next day.

# A Pan India Conclave

Adrenaline Medical Conference (AMCON) 2016, the first of its kind medical conference, organised as a SCOME initiative, was held in Smt. N.H.L. Municipal Medical College in the beautiful city of Ahmedabad, **Gujarat**, the state that gave us the Father of our nation.

**Adrenaline Medical Conference (AMCON) 2016**, was held under the leadership of **Adit Desai**, Vice-President-External (16-17), **Chinmay Jani**, General Secretary (16-17), (then the State president of Gujarat) and **Pankhuri Bannerjee**, National Officer for SCOME (15-16).

The dictum of AMCON '16 being exploring new horizons, it provided a platform to both Undergraduate and Post Graduate students to present their research studies as Oral or Poster presentations. An overwhelming response of more than 200 abstracts was received in a span of a few weeks.

The conference also hosted workshops in association with the Academy of Traumatology of India (AOT) which included 6 different skill stations - Spinal immobilization, Shock, FAST, Chest tube drainage, CPR and airway management. It also conducted a workshop that included skill stations on suturing and ECG. Through this workshops students earned hands-on experience helping them become better physicians.

The first day of the conference saw the delegates take part in a Model WHO where students took part in discussions simulating an actual World Health Organisation summit where 16 participants were teamed into 8 countries consisting of 2

delegates each viz. Brazil, Germany, Japan, India, Russia, Turkey, Syria and the United States of America. The topic of discussion for the session was the Syrian refugee crisis.

The second day of the conference witnessed over 900 students gathering to witness the dais being shared by **Dr Jayshree Mehta**, the President of the Medical Council of India, the policy making body of the country with respect to medical education. The dais was shared by **Dr Ketan Desai**, the President-

*With a total of 660 registrations from across the country, it became the one of the largest pure medical conference organised by the students and for the students in the country.*

Elect of World Medical Association (2016-2017) and **Dr Ved Prakash Mishra**, Chairman of the Academic Council, M.C.I. **Dr Jayshree Mehta**, spoke on the topic of 'Research in Medicine'. This was followed by **Dr Ketan Desai** speaking on the topic of 'N.E.E.T-National Eligibility Entrance Test', the new form of entrance exam for the undergraduate and post-graduate medical courses in India. **Dr. Vedprakash Mishra** concluded the session by speaking on the topic of 'Competence based Curriculum'.



Practicing our policy making skills: At the sets of the Model WHO

The event was graced by the deans of almost all the medical and dental colleges of Gujarat and other eminent doctors from the medical fraternity. The eminent speakers of the conference included famous intervention cardiologists, surgeons, general practitioners, and gynaecologists speaking on new innovations, latest technologies and diseases plaguing the medical field.

**Dr Bronwyn Jones**, who was the former IFMSA Regional Director for Asia-Pacific, spoke on the basic research methodologies.

The Conference was attended by the MSA India President (15-16) **Naren Nallapeta**, General Secretary (15-16) **Priyanka Manghani**, Marketing and PR Director (15-16) **Apeksha Kakkar**, Vice President of Memberships- **Ruthesh Vardhan**, National Officer SCOME (16-17) **Khalid Ahmed**, National Officer SCORA (15-16) **Mubasshir Babar** and the Publication Support Division Director- **Schweta Rane**.



## Punjab Tackles Blood

**Patiala:** Blood donation camps are the need of the hour. One such mega camp was organized by Punjab team of MSAI. About 40% of the blood collected had to be disposed because the blood was unfit for use due to infections or anaemia. In spite of that, the camp managed to collect about 260 units of blood from 65 voluntary donors in 4 hours! The efforts of GMCH, Patiala paid off and the camp was conducted smoothly and successfully!

## Anaemia Screening Camp (Chandigarh)

**Chandigarh:** The biggest health related hurdle in today's society is anaemia. For the betterment of the society an anaemia screening camp was organized on 4th of June, 2016 in Chandigarh by Akanxa Bhatti, a member of MSAI, with assistance from SCOPH. Around 212 people were screened out of which 17% children, 34% menstruating women and 49% men were found to be anemic. The crowd was subjected to tests for Hb and hematocrit estimation.

Dr. Amulyajit Kaur (MD Pathology) addressed the crowd on anaemia and those who were found anaemic were referred to her laboratory for further tests. This was followed by Miss Akanxa Bhatti on iron rich food and vitamin B-complex supplements and their importance. Overall, the camp received a tremendous response and was a huge success! We look forward to more such camps in the future!



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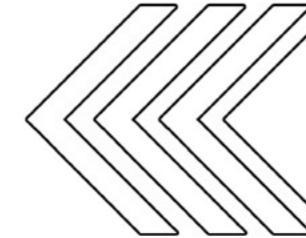
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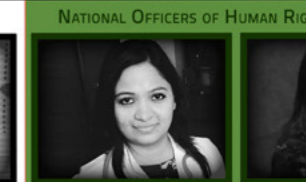
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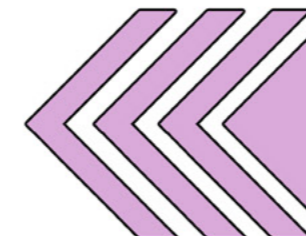


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## A Ray of Hope

The 'Ray of Hope' event was organised on 13 April 2016 under SCORP and SCORA. It was an informative cum interactive seminar organised in association with the NGO 'Transforming Lives Foundation'. The event was held at a shelter home at Vasai. The shelter home houses 33 girls aged 12 to 18 who are rescued from human trafficking.

The seminar started with an interactive introduction session. The volunteers introduced themselves and the girls were encouraged to introduce themselves and their hobbies. Then the presentations started and various topics were covered which included: gender equality, personal hygiene, environmental hygiene, contraception, STDs, sex determination, common infectious diseases and their prevention, nutrition and anaemia. The shelter house was provided with a supply of sanitary pads from by Upasana Society. The event spanned for over 4 hours and was attended by 30 girls.

After the seminar, the girls performed a group dance for the volunteers. Their cheerfulness and zest for life was a true example of how to keep moving ahead even in the face of adversity.

This was the just the first among the many events planned under the programme "Ray of Hope" wherein we plan to work for towards health education for all. The next event is already being planned, and we'll be having many more events in the future.



## National General Assembly 2016

*(continued from Page 1)* Little did I know that these very faces would soon be like family, that I'd come to consider them my own and share merry moments with them for the next three days. Our trainers, **Zoha** and **Sarvesh**, were fun. Believe me when I say this, my biggest fear of having missed out on something better by not choosing one of the other sessions that were happening simultaneously was never realised. For the entire course of the workshop, we drew, debated, discussed, challenged, fought, laughed and came up with new ideas! Together, we unearthed the surface of traditional medical practice so as to explore its underpinnings and to learn from the diverse experiences that participants brought to the table. The workshop provided particularly interesting insights into how basic human rights could be used or exploited.

Post a sumptuous meal on the first day, we went in for the Inauguration Ceremony which provided a glimpse of what MSAI stands for. After that came interesting career advice seminars followed by a change of venue for the plenary. The plenary was a first-hand insight into the organisation's bylaws and policy formation. After the sessions were concluded, we rushed to our quarters to get dressed up for the Social Night. It was a different world altogether then; neon props, music and mood.

Day Two was, by a fair margin, my favourite. Not only did I get to make more friends, the Medical Simulation Seminar, too, put in front of me a window of opportunities. The Pre-GA and Plenary

session commenced through the day, and the night was scheduled for with an Activity Fair and Cultural Programme. The latter presented us with the colourful nature of India in the form of music, dance and food. (I performed a Rajasthani folk dance with my group, and we came second!)

Speaking of the theme-specific events, I attended the ones on LGBT rights by **Dr Priyanka Manghani**, and it was enlightening to see how people with varied sexualities were being discriminated against in healthcare and related fields.

The last day was a bag of mixed feelings for me, my experience at the NGA 2016 was unprecedented. I greatly enjoyed the chance to meet like-minded people from different places, the opportunity to work and to learn from one another, and the chance to explore ideas beyond academics.



At the LGBT Rights Session with Dr. Priyanka Manghani

## The SCOPE for Exchanges

As we rejoiced at the news of MSAI being elected as a Candidate Member of IFMSA, it became imperative to make India SCOPE active as soon as possible. As a recently joined member with no knowledge whatsoever of SCOPE, I volunteered to help the then National Exchange Officer, Mokshada Sharma. Little did I know that what I joined as "a bit of extracurricular work", would give my life a completely new direction.

The journey to make SCOPE active has been long and tedious and full of unexpected adversities. It is said that adversities bring together people. I couldn't agree more as Mokshada and my friendship grew stronger over the numerous rounds to various colleges, the long waiting hours to meet the Dean only to be shooed away like pests and as the constant phrase of "Get it MCI (Medical Council of India) recognised and then we will talk" swam in our heads. After listening to these, the hopelessness felt was enormous enough to give up, however, we were determined not to do so. (We did take a break though to concentrate on our exams, after all, being a medical student comes first.)

In the midst of these frantic preparation for exams, the call for the March Meeting delegation was sent out. Without hesitation, I applied and voilà! I was selected. As everyone spoke regarding the committees they would represent, there was no doubt in my mind that I would be representing SCOPE. But then, what would I do in it when we were not even active?

So began the rounds to colleges all over again until suddenly, luck turned our way. Not one but two colleges agreed to host incoming students! The hope, excitement and happiness were indescribable. That's when the long conversations over phone, getting the heaps of paperwork done and getting ourselves ready for the Exciting Exchange Fair finally gained momentum.

India is a country where education is given the utmost importance but the education system is quite rigid. The idea of a student going to another country, studying and practicing one subject for a month and adhering to the education pattern of that country is somehow unfathomable here. The fact that it is us students who conduct and manage these formalities internationally is not only unbelievable but is looked upon with suspicion. Where else will you get boarding, lodging, educational as well as the social and cultural experience of another country at such a reasonable rate.

*MSAI-India became the 98th NMO to become SCOPE Active.*

Even with and despite the hurdles faced, India is now finally SCOPE Active, the first student has successfully completed her exchange, and we await with open arms to welcome our first incoming into the country.

As I sign off, all I can say to future exchange students coming to and going from India, Bon voyage!

# A Date With The Sexpert

An open forum discussion on sex, sexuality and relationships was organised at the Mysore Association Auditorium, Matunga by the Maharashtra team. The event was arranged targeting both the medico and non-medico audience. This SCOME and SCORA combined event was organised by Priyanka Manghani, Apeksha Kakkar, Zenia Poladia, and Sushmita Reddy. The event was co-ordinated by Soorya Dev, Rhea D'Souza, Shubdha, Arshiet Dhamnaskar, Murlidhar Pamarthi, Hansel Misquitta, Gunjeet, Krutika and Ranjana.

**Dr. Mahinder Watsa**, a 91 year old sexologist and sex therapist, who is very popular with the city folks for his witty answers was the main speaker of this event. He was joined by two other eminent sexologists **Dr. Vithal Prabhu** and **Dr. Raj Bramhatt**. Sexual intercourse, Sexuality, Relationships and Intimacy were the major topics of discussion. The three doctors with their profound knowledge in this area gave amazing talks which attracted all the audience.

The talk was a great success and audience asked a lot of general questions about sex and sexuality. A few personalised questions were even asked. A young boy also opened about sexuality and his confusions regarding the same. The event was a grand success and many such events are expected in the future.



**Dr Mahinder Watsa is a 91 year old sexologist based in Mumbai. Known for his witty replies to sex-related queries in newspaper columns, it is estimated that he has received over 40,000 such queries till date.**

# The North Zone Regroups

The 5th of June 2016 saw the Northern states of India organise their first ever Regional General Assembly. **Dr. Udhayvir Grewal** and **Nipun Nagpal** donned the role of the organising chairperson and the organising secretary for the same respectively and conducted a highly successful event which amply served the purpose of setting the gears of medical student involvement in public issues into motion. Primarily, the North Indian states like Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan pitched in to be a part of this. The conference was conducted at the Indian Medical Association Complex in Chandigarh, in the verdant state of Punjab in partnership with The Medicos Legal Action Group (Regd.)©

General Introductions to MSAI and IFMSA were given by our Vice President-Internal and outgoing General Secretary (15-16), **Dr.**

*Delegates from all of Northern India had come for the NZGA and were intimated with the principles, functioning and opportunities at MSAI and IFMSA.*

**Priyanka Manghani** who attended all the way from Mumbai. This was followed by induction sessions for the various Standing Committees viz. SCORA, SCOPH, SCORE, SCOPE were conducted by the respective National Officers. Undergraduate research was touched upon by our General Secretary (16-17), **Dr. Chinmay Jani** who was previously the State President for Gujarat and had made the trip up north just for this. The GA also had a session on Medico-legal issues which was conducted by the Regional Director of the North Zone, Nipun Nagpal.

The members presented the activities which were a part of North Zone's pet project- the 'Be The Change' Campaign and prizes were given to the best. It was an amazing opportunity for the new members to interact with all the National Officers and most of them showed particular interest in exchange programmes and research projects. The GA had a pre and post question-answer sessions for majority of events. Where the response that was just 20% correct in the pre-session jumped to 70-75% when evaluated post session. The MSA India activities have picked up tremendous pace post the General Assembly proving without doubt that medical students all over the country have started to work to be a bigger help to the society.



# A Glimpse Into Geriatrics

The MSA India SCORP team on the 29th of June, led by Zeel Patel and Faiz Poonawala and comprising of the volunteers, Ayushi Patel Divya Patel, Krishna Rabari, Surbhi Pandya and Shivangi Desai, visited the 'Jeevan Sandhya' Old Age Home in Naranpura, Ahmedabad. 'Jeevan Sandhya'- Hindi, for 'life's twilight' is a home to 180 elderly people all above 60 years of age.

The team talked to around 85 residents individually to find out why they have been living in the old age home, their age, socioeconomic status, family condition, medical problems, whether they were taken care of properly and to enquire about any other problems they might have.

The senior citizens were counselled regarding the Rights of the Elderly, Human Rights and Concessions and Facilities made available to Senior Citizens by the government. The team found out that upto 75% of the residents that they interacted with complained of elderly abuse with predominance being significantly higher in the lower and the middle class of the society.

The most popular reported form of abuse was emotional abuse and neglect which sadly stemmed from the victim's own family. Digging deeper into the cause led the team to conclude the main reasons for the abuse were acute dependency, economic crisis in the household and dysfunctional family ties.

Not only did the SCORP team spend the day interacting with the residents and lending a ear to all the problems these senior citizens have had to face to live a life with dignity, they also brought with them refreshments to share with the residents of 'Jeevan Sandhya'.



# Be The Change

Mahatma Gandhi rightly said 'Be the change you wish to see in the world'. With that in mind a pan-state 'Be the change' campaign was conducted in Punjab during the latter half of May, which extended till the first week of June. The campaign kickstarted with an awareness seminar for children on 'Nutrition and General Hygiene' conducted by a team at Punjab Institute of Medical Sciences, Jalandhar. Around 250-300 students participated in this seminar. A similar event was conducted by the same team at the primary government school in Garha, where about a 100 students participated. Adesh Institute of Medical Sciences, Bhatinda educated children in two different schools on personal hygiene.

There were interactive sessions with the kids on 'Good Hygiene and Nutrition', at a school in Dayalpur by a team at Gian Sagar, and at DAV secondary school by SGRD Institute of Medical Sciences. A team at Gian Sagar, Banur conducted a registration drive for MSAI. Also, around 50 units of blood was collected and about a 100 patients were screened for basic health ailments in a voluntary blood donation drive cum health camp by a team at Government Medical College, Amritsar. A general assembly for the members of the northern zone of India was conducted on 5th June, 2016 in Chandigarh.

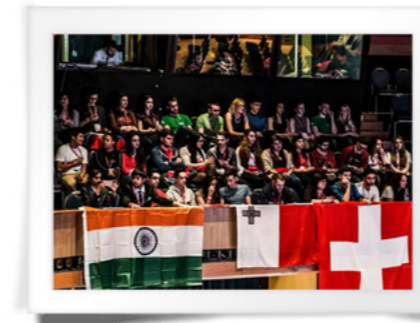
The last event of this campaign was a 'Health and Hygiene' promotion seminar at the Red Cross Senior Citizen Home, Ludhiana by the Dayanand Medical College, Ludhiana. Kudos to the MSAI Punjab team for their hardwork and marvelous campaign!



# Malta Memories

The most Spectacular thing I remember from Malta is the Roll Calls! Omg! This was just something you could not miss. Coming early to the Audi, Shouting our slogans & Waving our National Flag! The 'feels' you'd get was unprecedented! Some countries also used Drums and their local musical instruments. It was so good.. And yes, Hooo Haaa INDIA!!! (sic)

- Ashfaq Baig



On the last day of the pre-GA the HS&HRH workshop worked on this video promoting Health Workforce 2030- WHO global health strategy on Human resources for health. The whole process of making the video with the HS&HRH family was so much fun! The video was then presented during the plenary. (sic)

- Clerin John



With girls dressed up in Sarees and boys in Sherwanis, the Indian delegation headed over to the venue of the Cultural Night. Everyone was dressed up- right from the Austrian Dirndl and Lederhosen to the Arabic thaub to the Japanese kimono. In every corner, I could see a part of the world in the most followed traditional form. the performances put up by various countries were no less. Not caring about coordination or perfection, each one only wanted to showcase their country in all its beauty and splendour. The cultural night ,with a mixture of sharing, of pride in one's nation, of wanting to know about other countries, of touring the world in one evening, remains one of the best nights of my Malta trip. (sic)

- Zoha Nizami



This is one of my favourite memories in Malta. Three people who'd met just a few hours ago were happily posing for the camera. While the unforgiving wind chilled us to the bone, the warmth of our friendship kept us cosy. The unlikely grouping of an Indian, Belgian and Mexican stop the highest point in Valetta forged a bond that time and space has not weakened. To my amigos, Yasnaia and Alben!" (sic)

- Anshruta Raodeo



My best experience at Malta were the small working groups in the afternoons... Amidst all the big things happening in the GA, I learnt so many little but important things in these discussions. I interacted with a lot of students and got to know a lot from their side of the world. We also learned a few soft skills like communication, presentation, advocacy etc which will help me throughout my life! (sic)

- Zarin Rangwala



# How to Join MSAI

Step 1: Approach your College Ambassador or any helpful MSA India member in your neighbourhood and ask for the membership form. OR

Send in a mail asking for it to the Vice President (Memberships): [ruthesh.knl@gmail.com](mailto:ruthesh.knl@gmail.com)

Step 2: Forward the filled form to the Vice President (Memberships), Ruthesh Vardhan : [ruthesh.knl@gmail.com](mailto:ruthesh.knl@gmail.com) and the Vice President (Internal Affairs), Priyanka Manghani: [pmanghani@yahoo.com](mailto:pmanghani@yahoo.com) or to the General Secretary, Chinmay Jani: [ctjani1494@gmail.com](mailto:ctjani1494@gmail.com)

Step 3. Pay a one-time membership fee of Rs. 1000/- towards MSAI and details of the same will be provided to you by a Memberships Officer.

That's it!! Be a proud member of the Medical Students Association – India!

Your membership will be confirmed through an email (with a unique PlexusMD Card Number) and a membership card will be dispatched to you within a month.

Note: You will get regular updates of all our activities as well as international opportunities through the PlexusMD Group mailing list. For any further doubts please feel free to write to us at: [msai-india@ifmsa.org](mailto:msai-india@ifmsa.org)

The logo for FENESTRA features a stylized 'F' icon composed of a grid of squares to the left of the word 'FENESTRA' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

FENESTRA - THE WINDOW INTO MSA INDIA

Find us at: <https://issuu.com/msa.india>

**Coming Up Next Issue:**

- SCORE's Finally Active!
- Indian Medical Students are on a Medical Conference rush!
- Getting candid with the EB (2016-2017)
- All about our first SCOPE exchange student