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Mr. Justice (R) Rana Bhagwandas (Chief Guest), Prof. Wasim Jafri, Prof. Saeed Hamid, Prof. Mohamed Rela from India, Prof. Bing Chiu Vice from Korea, Prof. S. M. Rizi, Dr. Abdul Waqar El-Chairs, Dr. Khalid Mahmood and Dr. Zulqarnain Abbas, on adjudicating at the Inaugural Ceremony of 5th Annual Meeting of PSILD 2011

Karachi: Pakistan Society for the Study of Liver disease organized its yearly meeting 5th Annual Meeting of PSILD 2011 on December 10 - 11, 2011 at a local Hotel in Karachi.

The aim of this meeting is to bring together leading national researchers and practitioners to offer information and thought provoking lectures, present research papers and exchange their experiences so that knowledge on prevention and cure of Liver disease can be disseminated to the wider medical and health care community.

The organizing committee of 5th Annual Meeting of PSILD 2011 had chalked out three days very innovative and knowledge full scientific program to understand the latest trends of Liver diseases, new paradigm of international research and protocols of diagnosis and treatment of Liver diseases. The inauguration ceremony of 5th Annual Meeting of PSILD was held on the first day of the event.

5th Annual Meeting of PSILD 2011 organized on the theme of Liver Transplant - An Asia Pacific Perspective

People should come forward in changing habits or occasionally, because neither government nor private sector can bring change alone - Mr. Justice (R) Rana Bhagwandas

Government should improve healthcare facilities and medical research programs to overcome the increasing cases of liver diseases, including liver cancer, in the country - Prof. Wasim Jafri

The chief guest on the occasion was Mr. Justice (Retired) Rana Bhagwandas Chairman, Federal Public Service Commission of Pakistan.

The Inauguration session was attended by people of different walks of life including physicians, transplant surgeons, gastroenterologists, Hepatologists and Internists including senior faculty of medical community.

The chief guest on the occasion Mr. Justice (Retired) Rana Bhagwandas appreciated the work and efforts of Prof. Wasim Jafri and his team and said that the Society is playing great role in order to help physicians to understand the burden of disease, creating awareness and suggesting measures to decrease the toll of patients. During the speech, he also lauded the efforts of the Government of Pakistan who try to play a pivotal role in helping all the patients suffering from Hepatitis in Pakistan with better diagnostic & therapeutic facilities.

He further said that most of the problems of one country are looking very large and so realistically but if people would like to change scenario they would come on ground, organize themselves and work together for good cause and this may change the situation with the passage of time, because neither government nor private sector can bring change alone, responsible community participation will help government and private sector to achieve their social development endeavors. He also stressed to increase expenditure related to healthcare, medical affairs and about physicians of different specialities during the tenure worked as a justice in different court.

Earlier Prof. Wasim Jafri the President of PSILD in his address pointed out the main objectives of the Society which puts research in the field of liver diseases as its topmost, followed by community medical education and public awareness programme so that the public at large in Pakistan is made aware of the deteriorating situation of health, particularly related to liver diseases.

He welcomed all participants attended inauguration and spare their precious time and specially thanked to senior faculty came from the other provinces and from neighbor South to attend the conference.

In the end, Prof. Wasim Jafri announced special news for the audience that Prof. Saeed Hamid has been selected as a President for the next term of Pakistan Society for the Study of Liver disease start from 2012.

Prof. Saeed Hamid, Vice President of PSILD presented the summary of society's activities during last year. He said that despite of new society in the international and national healthcare sector, PSILD has achieved a reputation as an academic society of the country. We have organized Sample Topic Conference of 'The Asian Pacific Association for the Study of Liver Diseases' in last December 2009 at Karachi. We are continuously organizing 'Sample Topic Meeting' every year since inception with Foundation University Medical College Rawalpindi, last year we have organized one day seminar with HBA University Hyderabad on Hepatitis treatment.

In the end Prof. Saeed Hamid informed the audience that after the meeting we have scheduled number of activities in 2012 of same nature with different institutions and societies in different cities of the country.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood Chair, Organizing Committee welcomed participants, guest speakers, chairs, panelists and sponsors for their active participation, he especially thanked to senior faculty came from the other provinces and from neighbor South to attend the conference.

Dr. Zulqarn Abbas General Secretary and Chair, Scientific Committee in his speech said that the theme of this year is 'Liver Transplant - An Asia Pacific Perspective'.

The three day event features various sessions on Liver Transplant, Hepatitis B & C, and management of liver cancer. Dr Abbas further enlightened on the subject and said that the prevalence of liver diseases, particularly Hepatitis B & C, hepatocellular carcinoma, and portal hypertension, was rising in the country. Hepatitis C has a prevalence of 6 percent while that of hepatitis B is found to be 2 percent among the Pakistani population.

Dr. Mohamed Rela renowned Liver Transplant Surgeon of King's College London and Global Hospitals Network of India presented state of the art lecture on Liver Transplant Surgery, he said that all over the world, that is the life saving procedure and the only hope for chronic hepatitis patients.

He said that now different modern techniques have been introduced to minimize the rejection and failure of transplant surgery. He said more than 500,000 people die each year because of lack of facilities and expertise for liver transplant.

Before vote of thanks a special life time achievement award was presented to Prof. Adibul Hassan Rizvi for his utmost services as a mentor, teacher and transplant surgeon generally for the society and specifically for the medical fraternity. Award was personally announced by Prof. Wasim Jafri and appreciated by another professional career of Prof. Adibul Hassan Rizvi and extended his personal gratitude to him, award was presented by Justice (Retired) Rana Bhagwandas.

In the end Dr. Shahab Abid paid vote of thanks to all speakers, chair, co-chairs, delegates came for academic participation in meeting. He also thanked the pharmaceutical industry for their support and participation. Those who also spoke in the inaugural session were Dr Bing Chiu Vice, Dr S. M. Rizi and Dr Abdul Waqar El-Chairs. The meeting was continued for next two days.

Prof. Justice Jafri Presenting Mementos to Mr. Justice (R) Rana Bhagwandas (Chief Guest) at the Inaugural Ceremony

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Mr. Justice (R) Rana Bhagwandas and Prof. Wasim Jafri Presenting Mementos to Prof. Bing Chiu Vice from Korea and Prof. Mohamed Rela from India in the Inaugural Ceremony