



# A Step Towards Excellence: Vision ASI 2023

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Greetings from the ASI Headquarters. At the very outset, I would like to express my gratitude for your unconditional love and support and giving me the opportunity to lead Asia Pacific's largest and the world's second-largest Surgical Association. A big position comes with big responsibilities, and we are prepared for it. I wish to take this opportunity to share my vision for the year 2023 as ASI President. I prefer to be a man of work rather than a man of words. Like any other Presidential candidate, I also promise to make ASI stronger and more vibrant. My roadmap to achieve this objective is very simple "Fewer is better, and to achieve more than you dream." After a few years of the turmoil and the administrative fiasco superadded by covid restrictions, life has started returning to normalcy. I feel indebted to the visionaries who conceived this association about eight decades ago and with the hard work of the former leaders to bring ASI to this level of international acclaim. I feel jubilant for being part of the national office for the past 6 years and contributing my bit towards the organisation's growth. Membership is the key strength and backbone of anybody, and I am happy to share that we have almost doubled up in this period. The acronym ASI is so magnanimous that it encompasses my vision for this great association for the coming year. Let me discuss it one by one:

The letter A stands for academics and administration.

The letter S stands for strong ASI, supportive to its members.

The letter I stands for image building, innovations and international cooperation.

## Academics

ASI is basically an academic body with excellence in academics as its prime objective. Talking about academics, some of our members are at the pinnacle and are internationally renowned

faculty, but is it enough to satisfy the needs of our country? Keeping that in mind, ASI has focussed on postgraduates and young surgeons. Beautifully designed regional refresher courses and national skill enhancement programs will be done throughout the year, and each week you will notice an academic event somewhere in the country. Relentless efforts from our Academic Director and the council members are being done throughout the country for such an academic feast. We wish to continue our journey towards academic excellence and need your feedback from all our audience of this journal which is our official organ. Let me remind you that a very stimulating and thrilling surgical quiz "MEMBRANE" awaits you in April 2023.

## Administration

Administrative excellence is the backbone of any organisation, and we are no exception to it. I am fortunate enough to work in the ASI headquarters for the past 6 years practically working on all the possible portfolios starting from joint secretary, treasurer, hon. secretary, vice president and now president which is a record in the 84 years of history of the association. During my journey, I had the opportunity of working with many great leaders and learnt a lot from them; henceforth, "Effective and transparent governance" is my key priority. I feel happy to support an efficient team of office bearers to make this year to be another year that a member can dream of. I want to appeal to every member of this society to pledge to uphold the constitution of ASI.

## Strong ASI

Membership is the key strength of any organisation. We all have worked hard in the past few years and have been successful; also, we have almost doubled our membership in the past 10 years to what was reached in the past 70 years. With little over 32 k members, we are proud to say that we are the largest surgical body in Asia-Pacific and the second largest in the world, but is this enough?

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My answer is “not really.” With our country’s vast and diverse population base, probably the largest in the world, we need to be on the top. If we look around us at the surgical community, we can see that two of the three surgeons are yet not members of ASI. Let us invite them to join hands and make the surgical fraternity of this country the strongest, and this can be achieved easily if each member decides to bring one member, and within no time, we will reach where we want to be. To accomplish this, we shall be felicitating a member who sponsors the highest number of the new members this year with the “Top Membership Key Award,” so please start enrolling your colleagues.

### Supportive to its Members

We care for our fellow members too, the ASI Social Security Scheme is such a scheme that takes care of the families of the members who unfortunately left us for heavenly abode. I will request entire eligible membership to join this noble cause. At the same time, I would also like to share a happy news with you that this scheme has recently crossed the one thousand mark which gives it complete autonomy. Another thing that worries us all are cowardly acts of violence against doctors by some unwanted elements of society. I feel, we should be strong enough and have the wisdom to safeguard ourselves as no amount of security and rules can save us 24 × 7 from such vandalism. The ASI city branches that are over 100 now should take up steps to counteract this problem. The state chapter office bearers should explore all the possibilities of chartering new city branches to strengthen our efforts. The city branches have another important role to play: social gathering and fellowship programs to keep the members active and recreated.

### Image Building

We are blessed by the very nature of our profession to provide for health care and to relieve the sufferings of mankind. We need to brand our image as a friend of the community, and in every charitable program, we should put ASI’s name with prominence.

### Innovations

We surgeons feel elated for so many innovations in the past from our country. Mythologically, Lord Shiva did what may be a head transplant of Lord Ganesh, Shushruta described a number of surgical procedures that are practised today. Unfortunately, we are not focusing on newer procedures to the extent we actually need. Our own innovations will not only be more suitable according to our requirements but will also be cost-effective. We at the ASI welcome initiatives for innovations and always acknowledge these duly.

### International Cooperation

This is an era of technology and mutual cooperation. To support this, we are constantly in touch with the top surgical colleges across the globe. I will be most happy to extend the invitations to our members as opportunities arise.

Before I conclude, I wish that the year 2023 should be recognised as “MEMBERS YEAR” in the history of ASI. I and our entire office are at the service of the members round the clock, and in the hour of need, we are just a call away. With hopes to do better day by day. Long live ASI.



Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain,  
President ASI 2023

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