Development of pharmacy profession in India and amendments in Drug & Cosmetics Act 1940

Pharmacy is a versatile, dynamic, growing & increasingly diverse profession, one which creates an excitement because there are so many opportunities for service. Pharmacists are health care professionals whose professional responsibilities include seeking to insure that people derive maximum therapeutic benefits from there treatments with medicines. Pharmacists represents the third largest health care professional group in the world and in India there are more than 10,00,000 (Ten Lakh) registered pharmacists working in various positions contributing to the health of the nation. Pharmacy being a very important profession, the govt. of India pass the Pharmacy Act 1948, to control the pharmacy profession as well as education in 1948, to control the manufacturing, distribution & sales etc Drugs & Cosmetics Act 1940 with rule 1945 was passed. Pharmacist for better healthcare team under the Pharma Vision 2020 was the slogan given by my when I was the President of IPCA 2010 at Manipal. Pharmacists are one of the faces of health where every patient or health care professionals meet at some point of time. Pharmacy in real sense is Pharmacy Practice which includes; Clinical, Community & Hospital Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Care. Pharmacist forms a vital link between Doctors, Nurses & the Patients in the health care team with the ultimate goal of Patient welfare & Patient safety. They have been looked upon mere drug dispensers. These pharmacists plays a major role in enhancing health care as they work day & night to maintain a chain of supply of Drugs. Now these pharmacists cannot be just dispensers since they have to provide value added services like patient counseling and provision of drug information to health care providers and patients.

Biography
Shri Sham Lal Nasa, born on 10th December, 1935. He got his Diploma in Pharmacy from Punjab University, Amritsar in the year 1956. He earned his B.Pharm and M.Pharm from College of Pharmacy, (DIPSAR) University of Delhi. He started his career as a Hospital Pharmacist in Kalawati Saran Children Hospital (Lady Harding Hospital) and Safdarjang Hospital from 1956 to 1964. Shri Nasa has been actively engaged in development and regulation of pharmacy education in India, has 31 years teaching experience in various levels at College of Pharmacy, Delhi (Delhi Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences & Research) from 1964 to 1995 teaching Diploma Pharmacy & Bachelor Pharmacy & Post Graduate pharmacy students in pharmaceutics & hospital pharmacy. He guided number of students in M.Pharma in hospital pharmacy. He is external examiner in various universities and technical education boards. He has presented & published number of scientific papers in the national & international conferences.

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