

**Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam presented the maiden
“National Oral Healthcare Sushruta Award” to the achievers from the
field of Oral Healthcare**

~ IDA Foundation celebrates 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. R Ahmed, Father of India Dentistry and recognises the Peerless Contribution of the awardees towards India’s Oral Health by presenting the Sushruta Award ~

Mumbai, 3rd Januray, 2015: IDA Foundation, a philanthropic organization to address the educational and humanitarian commitments of the **Indian Dental Association (IDA)**, today presented the **National Oral Healthcare Sushruta Award**, to honour individuals in respective fields for their outstanding achievement in the oral healthcare sector. The award was presented by **Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam, former President of India**.

Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam while congratulating the award winners said, *“Diseases such as dental carries and problems of poor oral hygiene and oral cancer is a major public health issue in India. Also poverty has a negative impact on dental health awareness, attitude and oral hygiene. We need to create awareness about oral health amongst our people. No law, no resolution can improve the oral health of the public unless the patient and dentist work together to share the understanding of importance of oral health and its relationship to overall health.”*

Dr. Ashok Dhoble, Hon. Secretary General, IDA, said, *“ The National Oral Healthcare Sushruta Award give professionals in India a great platform to benchmark their achievements against their peers; giving the award winners a professional boost to perform better and achieve higher. It is not easy to win the Sushruta Award, given the rigorous evaluation process; making the winners true stalwarts in their respective categories.”*

The **National Oral Healthcare Sushruta Award** was presented to **Dr. Pankaj Chaturvedi** for **outstanding contribution by an Individual in promoting Oral Cancer Awareness**. Other recipients of the award are **Dr. Pratibha Athavale** for **Outstanding contribution by an Individual in providing Outreach Oral Healthcare Services, Salaam Bombay** for **Outstanding contribution by an NGO in creating Oral Healthcare Awareness, Dentacare Dental Lab. Pvt. Ltd** for **Outstanding contribution by an Organisation in providing Oral Healthcare Services, Prime Dental Products Pvt. Ltd** for **Best Dental Manufacturer, Government Dental College- Mumbai under the leadership of Prof. Mansingh Pawar** for **Outstanding contribution by**

an Institution in providing Oral Healthcare Services, Lt. General Vimal Arora , DGDS for Outstanding contribution by a Defence Personnel in creating Oral Healthcare Awareness, Prof. Dr. Rajendrasinh Rathod for Outstanding contribution by an Individual in providing Community Oral Healthcare Services, Dr. Prakash Amte for Exceptional contribution by an individual to Rendering Community General & Oral Healthcare Services, Dr. Srinath Reddy for Outstanding contribution by an Individual to Tobacco Control and Sushruta Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Dr.Praful Diwanji for Significant Contribution in Dentistry.

As part of **IDA Foundation's humanitarian commitments**, a platform was given to the special children of the **Victory Art Foundation** to showcase their exceptional talent through their dance performance.

National Oral Healthcare Sushruta Awards recognizes the highest standards of excellence in the field of oral healthcare, honoring individuals in respective fields for their outstanding achievement. These awards are instrumental for motivating other professionals to strive for greater heights and to contribute more actively towards promoting the profession's intellectual, creative and ethical value systems.

About IDA Foundation

Nation Oral Healthcare Sushruta Awards are conceptualized by IDA Foundation to recognize the highest standards of excellence and reward individuals for their outstanding role in providing care. IDA Foundation is a philanthropic organization to address the educational and humanitarian commitments of the Indian Dental Association (IDA).

About Indian Dental Association (IDA)

Founded in 1946 IDA is the largest recognized body of dental professionals in India. IDA has a national presence and works with 29 state and 7 union territories and over 360 local branches spread across the country. Its mission is to lead the country to optimal oral health while promoting professional advancement of its own members. IDA is affiliated with distinguished global associations such as the Federation of Dentaire Internationale (FDI or World Dental Federation), Commonwealth Dental Association (CDA) and the International Association for Dental Research (IADR), to name only a few. IDA believes in the importance of oral health and is consistently working towards its aim of optimal oral health for every Indian by 2020.

For any further information please contact:

Ms. Arunima Nath,
Public Relation Officer,
Indian Dental Association
Mob: 9833744969
Email: arunima.nath@ida.org.in