

SPEECH OF
DR. C. S. POONAWALLA,
Chairman & Managing Director,
Serum Institute of India Ltd., Pune

Ladies & Gentlemen,

I take great pleasure to welcome all the members of DCVMN to Pune as also the Speakers who have agreed to participate and guide the members of the Network from all over the world.

We, here at Serum Institute, have made every effort to ensure that your stay is comfortable and memorable. Should there be any shortcomings, please do not hesitate to personally contact Dr. Suresh Jadhav or myself for necessary remedies as we will be delighted to have our services offered to you at all times.

I also welcome the WHO and PATH team, who are present here to guide the members on crucial aspects of Pre-qualification, Regulatory Affairs, cGMP, IPR and other issues and thank them for taking their time out to be with us and thus enhanced the prestige of DCVMN meeting.

May I take the liberty to record our appreciation for the efforts put in by Dr. Julie Milstien to conceive the idea of DCVMN and Dr. Susan McKinney who further strengthened it during its infant stages.

It is a matter of great pride and sense of satisfaction for all the DCVMN members to share that currently more than 75% of the basic vaccine requirements of all the developing countries worldwide are being fulfilled from members of the DCVMN and I hope a day will come when the entire 100% requirements of vaccines will be made available at affordable prices by the members of the DCVMN Network.

Obviously, I am sure all of you are aware that DCVMN members are not only augmenting their manufacturing activities and cGMP, but also looking at the development and launch of newer vaccines such as rotavirus, meningococcal, pneumococcal, dengue and combination vaccines. I wish them all success!

Lastly, may I invite you all to join me for a brief visit to Serum Institute tomorrow at around 3.30 p.m. We have made elaborate arrangements to welcome you all for a dinner at my Stud Farm later this evening at 7.30 p.m. and once again at the Corinthian Club tomorrow for those who are still in Pune at 7.30 p.m. Further details, of course, will be available in your folder for your convenience.

I thank you all very much and hope it will be a successful and memorable meeting.