

## CommunityNews

### New Jersey Physicians' Group Honors 3 at Annual Health Summit

By A STAFF WRITER

Three prominent Indian-American physicians were honored for their achievements in the field of medicine and for their contributions to the community during the annual health summit and meeting of the New Jersey chapter of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) at the Double Tree Hilton in Newark, New Jersey, Nov. 22.

Attended by nearly 350 physicians from the tristate area, the annual event with focus seminars on lifestyle-related metabolic disorder disease, included CME programs, gala, awards ceremony and networking of AAPI delegates.

Those honored at the gala were Dr. Sharad Sahu, director of Physician Affairs, Chief Internal Medicine and Office of Medical Affairs at Hackensack University Medical Center, for leadership in the field of medicine; Dr. Nilesh Patel, a cardiac surgeon, for contributions in Best Outcome for Cardiac Interventions for Surgeries; and Dr. Keshav Shivshankar, for his philanthropic initiatives.

In his welcome address, Dr. Sanjay Jain, President of AAPI NJ said the mission of the organization is to serve as a forum to facilitate and enable physicians to excel in inpatient care, teaching and research and to pursue their aspiration in profession and community affairs.

Chief guest Dayaneshwar Mulay, consul general of India in New York, praised the contribu-



Members of the New Jersey chapter of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) at its annual health summit and meeting at the Double Tree Hilton in Newark, New Jersey, Nov. 22.

tion and achievements of Indian-American physicians.

Michael Antoniadis, senior vice president of the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, in his keynote address stressed the importance and the need to work together with the physicians of Indian origin, who have made a name for themselves as innovators and for their hard work, dedication and compassion, an AAPI NJ press release said.

The Educational Seminars earlier in the day offered insights into modern technologies and the ways to benefit both the physicians and the patients they are called to serve, especially after the launch of the Affordable Care Act.

Drs. Ranjita Sengupta, a cardiologist from Rutgers University, Hemal Gada, and Prashant Pandya led the CME sessions on cardiovascular diseases and the modern technology that helps prevent diseases and the best ways to treat patients in a cost effective manner, while Dr. Gaurav Gupta, director of Cerebrovascular and Endovascular Neurosurgery at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, spoke on neurosurgery, especially on technological advances in the surgical treatment of acute stroke and brain aneurysms.

Dr. Kusum Punjabi, president of Young Physicians Section of AAPI, the emcee for the gala, who introduced the speakers and the awardees in addition to the AAPI NJ executive committee. The event concluded with dinner and live music and dance by local artists.

### New York-based Architect Named Outstanding Young Zarathushti Professional of the Year

By A STAFF WRITER

New York-based architect and interior designer Shirin Kumaana-Wadia has been chosen as this year's Outstanding Young Zarathushti Professional of the Year by the World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce. She will receive the award at the WZCC Global Annual General Meeting in Dubai Dec. 18 by British-Indian entrepreneur Lord Karan Bilimoria.

Kumaana-Wadia is involved in design projects ranging from



Shirin Kumaana-Wadia

hospitality design to residences and corporate offices in North America, Europe and the Middle East. In 2011 she started her own design studio, Mazda Design. She moved to

New York City in 2003 as an intermediate designer and over the last decade has risen to associate principal at Pierre Court Design.

She heads the Hospitality Design Team with a focus on high-end luxury, her website says.

A trained dancer in Salsa and other Latin dances, Kumaana-Wadia, is a self-taught digital artist.

Her photographs and digital media compositions manifested into her first ever solo exhibition of photography titled "To Eternity and Back" in Mumbai in Dec. 2013.

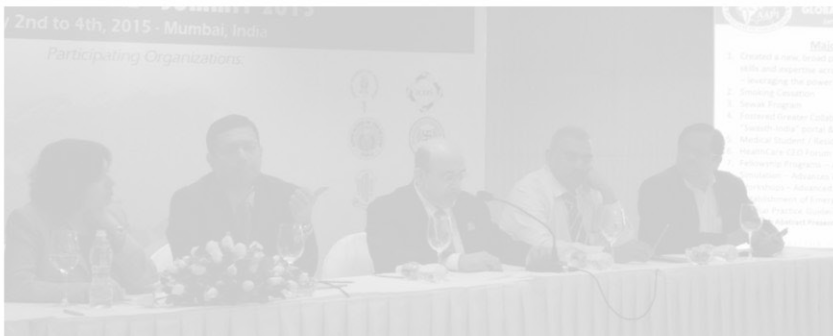
### Amitabh Bachchan to be Chief Guest at AAPI's Global Healthcare

By A STAFF WRITER

Bollywood Superstar Amitabh Bachchan will be the chief guest at the 9th annual Global Healthcare Summit 2015 (GHS) organized by the Association of American Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) in collaboration with the Indian Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Jan. 2 to 4 at the Trident Oberoi Hotel in Mumbai.

"We are honored to have Superstar Bachchan during the banquet on Saturday, Jan. 3, expressing his support for two long term AAPI initiatives: National Trauma and Head Injury Program and the Hepatitis Research Program," Dr. Ravi Jahagirdar, AAPI president announced.

India has one of the highest accident rates leading to trauma and head injury. AAPI, in collaboration with leading healthcare



Above, Dr. Ravi Jahagirdar, President of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI) addresses delegates at the Global Health Summit 2014 in Ahmedabad. Right, Amitabh Bachchan, who will be the chief guest at the GHS 2015 in Mumbai.

institutions in India and the Indian Ministry of Health has embarked on a long-term project to create awareness on the need to prevent, treatment, special care and rehab services to those involved in accidents.

Hepatitis is another leading cause and continues to be a silent killer in India, which has

led to AAPI's Hepatitis Research Program. "Through his continued support for AAPI, the most admired and evergreen Bollywood star will promote the most innovative, efficient and cost effective healthcare solutions for India," Dr. Jahagirdar added.

According to Dr. Gautam

Samadder, AAPI secretary, the summit is in partnership with the ministry of overseas Indian affairs and ministry of health and family welfare, along with collaboration with over 10 professional associations from all over the world.

More than 300 physicians of Indian origin from around the



world are expected to attend the summit, an AAPI press release said.