

## **Past AAPI President Honored in Congressional Record**

Dr. Sanku S. Rao, immediate past President of AAPI, was honored by his local Congressman for his service to the organization.



### **TRIBUTE TO DR. SANKU S. RAO, M.D. -- (Extension of Remarks - July 31, 2009)**

### **SPEECH OF HON. FRANK D. LUCAS OF OKLAHOMA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2009**

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to commend the service of my constituent Dr. Sanku S. Rao, M.D., who recently completed a one-year term as President of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (AAPI).

Dr. Rao has practiced Gastroenterology and Internal Medicine in Enid, Oklahoma at St. Mary's Regional Medical Center since 1979. He is a member of the American Society of Internal Medicine, serves as Chairman of the Oklahoma Blood Institute, is President-Elect of the Garfield County Medical Association, and is Board Certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Rao was elected President of AAPI for 2008-2009. AAPI has entered its 28th year, and with 15,000 members, it is one of the largest ethnic medical associations in the nation. Dr. Rao is truly committed to the Indian American community and serves as a vital link between the medical communities in the U.S. and India. As President of AAPI, Dr. Rao organized the Indo-U.S. Healthcare Summit in New Delhi, India in January 2009. Medical specialists from the U.S., India, and the UK discussed prevention, treatment and the management of six major diseases including heart disease, diabetes, infectious diseases, HIV, tuberculosis, and allergies, and promoting better maternal child health care. Dr. Rao established a free endoscopy clinic at a hospital in Hyderabad, India and has assisted young Indian American

physicians to secure residency positions in the U.S.

Dr. Rao exemplifies the success story that has made Indian American physicians so vital to our health care system. He graduated Valedictorian of St. Paul's High School in Hyderabad and received his medical degree with distinction from the Institute of Medical Sciences in Hyderabad. He completed his medical residency and fellowship in New York and has been a longtime resident of Oklahoma. He lives in Enid with his wife, Dr. Sanku Rohini, and has two children, Archana and Ameet Rao.

I want to congratulate my constituent Dr. Sanku Rao for his able service as the national President of the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin.