

IAMM SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2003-2004

Dr.V.Ravi, Secretary IAMM.

I have the privilege and honor of presenting the report on the activities of the Indian Association of medical Microbiologists (IAMM) for the year 2003-2004.

The XXVII Annual Congress of the IAMM was held at Hotel Tulip Star, Mumbai, between 5-9 November 2003. 785 delegates attended this from India and abroad. The highlights of this Congress were, six parallel Pre Congress Workshops, a CME on Infectious Diseases, a Live Satellite Video Conference between USA, Zimbabwe and India on Strengthening HIV VCTC Services in India. In this congress over 412 scientific papers were presented. The Congress also had eight symposia, six guest lectures and three orations. It was a great success and well appreciated by all the members.

During the past one-year several of our State Chapters have been very active and holding regular quarterly and annual meetings, especially the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and New Delhi. I am very happy to inform you that during the past year two new State chapters have been formed at Assam and Uttar Pradesh.

As usual a number of our IAMM family members have been receiving laurels and accolades both at the national and International level. To name a few, Prof.R Sambasiva Rao was appointed as Vice Chancellor of the NTR University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada, AP and Dr. S Badrinath has assumed charge as Deputy Director general of health Services at Nirman Bhavan, Govt.of India. Dr.T Jacob John received the Dr.Ambedkar Life Time Achievement award of ICMR and also has been conferred with DSc by the Dr.MGR Medical University, Chennai, Dr. HN Madhavan received the Life time service award of the Rotary Club, Dr.Savitri Sharma, Editor of our Journal was awarded Achievement award of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, Dr. SC Sehgal has been honored with Dr.RV Rajam Oration Award by the National Academy of Medical Sciences, Dr.MK Lalitha has been elected a Fellow of the National Academy of Medical Sciences, Dr.SC Parija received Dr. SR Rao Memorial Award of the Bombay Veterinary Association, Dr.BS Nagoba was awarded the Dr.Shardini Best teacher award by the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Dr.UK Chattophadyaya received the Dr.VR Khanlokhar prize of the IAPM. Many senior professors who are members of our IAMM family have assumed high positions of office in various institutions across the country such as Dean, Principal and Medical Superintendents.

Five new members have been elected to the Executive Council of IAMM this year in the recently concluded elections. They are Dr. VM Katoch, JALMA Institute, AGRA, Dr.Vilas Jahagirdar, Govt.Medical College.Miraj, Dr. Lalit Dar, AIIMS, New Delhi, Dr.Nalini Ramamurthy, King Inst of Preventive Medicine, Chennai, Dr. Dr.RK Ratho, PGIMER, Chandigarh.

The journal of our association, Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology has been published regularly during the past one year and all the four issues have been well received by all members. The papers published in the journal and the printing of the journal have been of a high standard and quality. Our Editor Dr.Savitri Sharma has taken a lot of effort to upgrade the IJMM website by making it more interactive for submission of articles as well as access of the journal online.

All the four issues of IAMM Newsletter were also published during the year. We now need to look ahead and develop either a separate website for our association so that we can convert the newsletter into an "e newsletter" due to rising cost of printing and postage and delayed access. I look forward to your suggestions and inputs to take this association to greater heights in the future.