

## IAMM SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEARE 2004-2005

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 2004-2005. During the year we lost one of the senior most members of our fraternity- Prof PV Ramana Rao. He was a regular attendee of each and every conference of our association. We shall miss him a great deal and pay homage to him later in our annual general body meeting.

The XXVIII Annual Congress of the IAMM was held at Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical research, Lucknow, in November 2004. The XXVII Annual Congress of IAMM was held at SGPGIMS, Lucknow, between 26-28 November 2004. Prof. Archana Ayyagari and her team organized this meeting which was preceded by a Pre-Congress CME on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2004 held at three different venues on three different topics – Scientific Communication (SGPGIMS), Animal model and cell culture (CDRI) and Quality control and Quality assurance of drinking water (ITRC). The congress was inaugurated by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, Hon'ble Chief Minister of UP. The Congress was attended by over 650 delegates from various parts of India. There were a total of five Symposia, one panel discussion and several guest lectures held during the congress. IN addition over 375 free papers and posters were presented by delegates attending this conference. Overall the conference was a grand success.

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 Pondcherry, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and New Delhi. I am very happy to inform you that during the past year, two new States have initiated proceedings to form state chapters of IAMM . They are Gujarat and J&K.

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, Dr. SC Parija, JIPMER, Pondicehrry was awarded the prestigious Dr.BC Roy award under the category of eminent medical teacher, Dr. SC Sehgal, ICMR , Port Blair was elected a Member of the Royal College of Pathologists, London Dr.A.Chandramuki, NIMHANS, has been elected a Fellow or the National Academy of Medical Sciences, Dr.Anandan of PGIBMS, Taramani, was awarded the prestigious Hari Om Ashram Alembic award for research in basic medical sciences by the MCI, Dr.Rajendran, PGIBMS, was awarded DSc by the International Open University of Medicinia Alternativa. Our immediate past president Col Nagendra has been promoted as a Brigadier and posted as Deputy Commandant, of The WC Hospital,Chnadimandir. 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. One new member Prof HN Madhavan, a very senior and distinguished Microbiologist from this very city, has been elected to the Executive Council of IAMM this year in the recently concluded elections.

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. I am very happy to inform all of you that our journal has now been indexed in PubMed from this year. This would not have been possible but for the untiring efforts of our beloved Editor Dr.Savitri Sharma. Only three issues of IAMM

newsletter were published during the year because the conference is being held very early. As I had promised last year, a separate website for our association has now been constructed and is to be commissioned shortly this evening. This has various features which will be detailed to you later by my colleague Dr. Abhay Chowdhry who has worked hard to get this up and running. We look forward to your suggestions as well active participation to make this a dynamic and active website. I am also looking forward to all your Email addresses to be posted on this website so that we can convert the newsletter into an "e newsletter". The rising cost of printing and postage and delayed access of the conventional newsletter hopefully will now be overcome with this website. I thank all my colleagues in the Executive council and look forward to all of you for your suggestions and inputs to take this association to greater heights in the future.