

# HONORARY GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT 2002-05

## DR. S.SACCHIDANAND

### LOOKING BACK...

My dear colleagues,

At the outset, I take this opportunity to wish each one of you a very Happy and Prosperous New Year!!

It is my pleasure and privilege to present my report in this august meeting for the closing year 2005 at Hyderabad during DERMACON 2006.

I assumed office during the National Conference of IADVL at Kochi, during January 2002. Though initially I could not understand the intricacies of functioning as Honorary General Secretary of IADVL, I slowly began to study the same and came to grips with it.

I had the privilege of working under four illustrious Presidents. They are Dr.K.K.Rajababu, Dr.A.K.Bajaj, Dr.Rui Fernandez and Dr.V.P.Kuriyipe. They guided me throughout my tenure shaping and mending me all the while. I am grateful to each one of them and I learnt a lot from them. Working under them, my resolve and zeal to work for IADVL ever increased.

I am also thankful to my senior colleague and friend Dr.S.D.N.Guptha, Honorary Treasurer, who fitted the bill perfectly and has done yeoman service to IADVL and its funds. I sincerely thank all the office-bearers during these four years who have guided me and helped me sail through.

I would like to list the achievements during my four years tenure, just for recording the same for posterity sake.

#### 1). Master Data File:

My first agenda was to create a "Master data file" containing the names of all the members of IADVL. This was a stupendous task and took nearly 4 to 5 months to accomplish. I started enrolling Life-members with the active support of various Secretaries of State Branches of IADVL from the number 3033. I could enroll more than 1200 life members and the last member I enrolled was 4240!!

This master data file has been maintained in Word format, Excel sheet format, mail-merger and individual State branches list as well. Every new entry needs to be recorded in each of these files.

A process was evolved to effect change of addresses. The names of the members whose mails were constantly received un-delivered were sent to the Branch Secretaries for verification and re-entry was made after correction. Lots of mails (more than 300 – 350) were being returned initially. I could effectively bring this number down to 150 at the end of my tenure.

I could also earn substantial amount of money by selling the CDs of this master file.

Similarly the list of Ordinary members and Associate members were updated and maintained.

For the first time, we could start enrolling the Associate members for two and three years at a time, so that continuity of IJDVL could be maintained to these members.

There were lots of missing names of members. These were crosschecked with the respective State Branch Secretaries and new membership numbers were allotted.

These changes were being constantly updated and intimated to the Chief Editor of IJDVL for mailing of IJDVL.

## **2). Membership drive:**

A massive membership drive was launched to enroll young Dermatologists from all over India. Local and Zonal committees were constituted to identify and motivate young Dermatologists to enroll as members of IADVL.

## **3). IADVL Website:**

IADVL Website, which was started by Dr.P.V.Mathew during the Kochi National Conference, has been updated and maintained by Dr.Uday Khopkar, our Chief Editor of IJDVL. Lot of inputs has gone into the website and new members can download application form from the website. Information regarding the IADVL Constitution, Awards, Prizes, Medals and Orations are available on the site.

## **4). IJDVL:**

With the active co-operation of Dr.A.K.Bajaj, Dr.K.K.Rajababu, Dr.Uday Khopkar, Dr.Ameet Valia, Dr.Sangeeta Amladi, Dr.Hema Jerajani and few others IJDVL had its re-birth. A meeting that was held at Mumbai, in Dr. Uday Khopkar's chambers, in which I too participated, decided the design of IJDVL, its cover page, its contents and decided to maintain it as such in the future also to create an identity for the magazine. Lots of advertisements were raised along with few permanent sponsors and this made IJDVL self-sustaining. IJDVL is now an indexed journal with Index Medicus and the papers published will appear in PUBMED searches.

## **5). IADVL – Funds:**

IADVL funds drastically increased during this period due to the following reasons:

- (i). Contribution from ISD funds
- (ii). Contribution from enrolling Life members / Ordinary members and Associate members
- (iii). Contribution from sale of address CDs
- (iv). Royalty received from the sale of IADVL Text book of Dermatology
- (v). Amount received towards corpus fund from the conferences held at Kochi, Kolkata, Mumbai and New Delhi.

## **6). ISD – Funds:**

The row that was long pending regarding the distribution of ISD funds was resolved. IADVL received about Rs. 37 lakhs and it was distributed equally amongst IADVL, IJDVL and New Delhi State branch. The ISD share of this amount was spent in the form of providing scholarship to 48 Indian delegates who visited ICD at Beijing, China during May 2004.

## **7). IADVL Directory:**

A directory of IADVL members was released during 2005. I sincerely thank M/s. Galderma for their generous contribution and commitment.

## **8). MCI issues:**

For the first time IADVL represented the problems faced by Dermatologists in Medical colleges. Dermatology as a subject is not being considered duly by MCI. It was represented to both MCI and Union Ministry of Health. It was demanded that Dermatology should be made a compulsory examination subject for under-graduates and compulsory rotatory Internship of 15 days implemented. The matter is under consideration.

## **9). Updating of IADVL Constitution:**

Updating of IADVL Constitution is now complete and the new constitution will be sent to individual members shortly. This does incorporate the resolutions and amendments made during the various AGBM till March 2006.

**10). IADVL Drug Formulary:**

An IADVL Dermatology Drug Formulary has been compiled by experts and is ready for distribution. This is the first of its kind. A CD format is also available for distribution. I congratulate, Dr.Jayakar Thomas, Dr.Hema Jerajani and Dr.Sangeeta Amladi for their efforts to compile this book. I also thank M/s. Ochoa Laboratories for their financial and technical help in publishing this book.

**11). IADVL – GSK National Quiz Program for Post graduate students:**

For the first time in the history of IADVL, a national level Quiz program for the post-graduate students was started with the financial and logistical help of M/s. GSK. Local and Zonal level quiz programs were held at Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata, New Delhi, Vadodara, Chandigarh and Agra. The finals were held in a grand fashion during DERMACON – 2006 at Hyderabad. Postgraduate students all over India have very well received this program.

**12). Computers / Lap-top for all:**

For the first time again, a unique idea of every IADVL members possessing either a computer or a Laptop was floated. Though an initial enthusiastic response was noted around 350 – 400 Dermatologists availed of this opportunity.

**13). Professor's forum:**

For the first time, a forum was created for academicians, professors and like minded members of IADVL to come on one platform to discuss the various problems being faced in Medical colleges, teaching hospitals and the like.

**14). SARAD membership & SARCD:**

IADVL became a member of SARAD, an association of members of SAARC countries. It has taken very active part in the activities of SARAD and in fact conducted the 4<sup>th</sup> SARCD at New Delhi along with 33<sup>rd</sup> National Conference of IADVL. Dr.K.K.Rajababu is the President of SARAD fro the term 2005 – 2007 and Dr.S.Sacchidanand is the Secretary – General for the same period. We wish to take SARAD to newer heights and establish IADVL as a strong body in SARAD. We are also in the process of identifying 'centres of excellence' amongst SAARC nations and encourage exchange of Young Dermatologists in these centres. This could be partly sponsored by SARAD.

**15). IADVL Training Fellowship centres:**

A few more IADVL Training Centres have been identified during the previous year. Centres of excellence teaching Paediatric Dermatology, Dermato-surgery, Cosmetology, Lasers usage, Dermatoscopy and few other procedures have been identified. These centres will start functioning within a few months from now after the formalities are completed.

**16). IADVL News letter:**

For the first time in the history of IADVL, an IADVL News Letter was published during 2005. Two issues have been published so far, and these have become an official mouthpiece and voice of IADVL activities. Every activity of IADVL is being recorded in these News Letters for recording the same for posterity sake. History of IADVL could be documented in these pages and it will serve as a reference document for future use. Minutes of various meetings of IADVL (EC meet, Mid-derma-meet, CCM and AGBM) can be documented, reports of Honorary General Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, Message from the President, Names of the office-bearers of various years, News about future DERMACONS, names of winners of various Orations, Awards and Medals can be published. Meeting notices, details of

venue, budget and audited accounts and various relevant announcements can be included. The scope is vast and I am sure one day this News Letter will become popular and much sought after.

**17). Mid-derma-meet and Executive body meetings:**

For the first time during the tenure of Dr.Rui Fernandez & Dr.V.P.Kuriyipe Mid-derma-meet was arranged at Bangalore and Hyderabad respectively. Dr.Kuriyipe also conducted an Executive body meeting at Kochi. These meetings helped us discuss various long-pending issues and come to a conclusion. This made the job easy during CCM and AGBM at the National conference. Now regular mid-derma-meets is being organized. I am told that the new team is hosting an Executive body meeting at Rajkot and a mid-derma-meet at Hyderabad. This is a very healthy trend and should be continued on a long-term basis.

**18). DERMACONS:**

During my tenure, four memorable DERMACONS were conducted. Kolkata (2003), Mumbai (2004), New Delhi (2005, along with 4<sup>th</sup> SARCD) and Hyderabad (2006) were the venues. Each of the conference has excelled each other and has created lot of interest in the younger generation of Dermatologists. Year after year the attendance is increasing and participation of the trade delegates has also increased.

The enthusiasm is palpable and infectious. Centres like Bhopal and Patna have bid for the conference this year. Though the applications reached late, AGBM would decide as to who will be the host for DERMACON 2008. Chennai has already shown a head start and are promising a fantastic conference (DERMACON 2007) during January 2007. Let us all meet at Chennai. I wish the Organising committee 'all the best' for a memorable conference.

**19). Activities of various Committees:**

Various committees constituted during the previous AGBMs, have worked hard and sincerely and have brought out reports well in time. The Academic Committee headed by Dr.Jayakar Thomas, Constitution Updating committee headed by Dr.R.G.Valia, Therapeutic Guidelines committee headed by Dr.V.K.Sharma and Ethical Issues committee headed by Dr.Suresh Joshipura have done excellent work. The reports have been tabled at previous CCMs and AGBMs.

**20). Acknowledgements:**

A lot of other initiatives were mooted. Some of them could be completed, some of them have been handed over to the new team of office-bearers to complete and some of them did not see the light of the day. Newer initiatives will take IADVL forward and make our association more meaningful.

I will be failing in my duties if I do not thank each and every member of IADVL who supported me and guided me to execute my job with sincerity and honesty. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my Presidents, office bearers of the National Executive, Office-bearers of the State branches, Chairmen of various committees, election officers who conducted fair and free elections and each and every individual who has helped me in accomplishing my job. I thank IADVL for providing me this platform to work for this august Association that has become very dear to my heart. I lay down my office with all sincerity and shall extend excellent co-operation to the new team. I also will not hesitate to serve IADVL in any manner and shall look towards any opportunity that IADVL offers.

Long live IADVL.

Dr.S.Sacchidanand (LM/KT/1937)  
Honorary General Secretary (2002 – 2005)

