

## Editor's Page

In 1961 the publication of this journal was taken over by A.F. School of Aviation Medicine, which has now been designated as Institute of Aviation Medicine and the first issue appeared in October of the same year, from where the editorial is worth reproducing.

"In the last few years some progress has been made in India in the study and advancement of Aviation Medicine. Elsewhere the progress in this field has been phenomenal. In 1961 man crossed the frontiers of space, and both Russia and America hope to put man on the Moon by 1970, if not earlier. This has been made possible not only by tremendous progress in the fields of rocket technology and electronics, but also by a remarkable advance in Aerospace Medicine, which has made it possible to equip and to train man to face new stresses and strange environments, and to ensure that all characteristics of the machine are kept within man's limitations. This advance has been achieved by wide national support and combined participation of civil and service institutions in the programme of Aerospace Medicine. Compared with this background our progress has been slow—a snail's pace but steady.....".

The phenomenal progress mentioned above has certainly continued and the ultimate dream of man reaching the moon has been achieved, which was considered an impossibility. The United States project Apollo 11 carried out this mission successfully, when two astronauts were landed on the Moon on July 1969 and while we are going to press, Apollo 12 has also landed there with a more complicated task to be performed on the Moon. These achievements are spectacular but have been made possible only due to advances in Technology and Aero Space Medicine.

In our own country Aeronautics has progressed to a great extent and here too, it must not be forgotten that Aviation Medicine has been a supporting discipline for this advancement. As such it is no longer in its infancy and has achieved a status, where it is now a recognised branch of general medicine.

The School of Aviation Medicine which was established in 1957 has on its own merit become an Institute since May 1968. The contributions made by this Institute towards Aviation Industry and the resolution of problems of the Indian Air Force, has been mounting steadily so that today the Institute of Aviation Medicine is of significant value to service and civil aviation. The installation of a variety of simulators for reproducing different flight environmental factors and other medical electronic devices along with many supporting laboratories, has put the Institute in a position to cope with operational needs of the Indian Air Force, as also the increasing requirements of the growing Aviation Industry.

An indication of Aviation Medicine having found a definite place in the academic life of India can be gauged by the fact that Bangalore University has recognised the Advanced Course conducted at I.A.M. for a Post-Graduate Diploma in the subject.



Our society, which was established in 1952 has also made considerable progress in achieving its objectives. A number of distinguished civilian scientists are associated with the society and the annual scientific session is a regular feature which has created new interests and enthusiasm amongst people concerned with aviation in the country.

Even though it may be gratifying to see such progress in the field of aviation medicine, yet the rapid progress being made elsewhere certainly sets a higher objective for us. It is thus imperative for the Institute of Aviation Medicine to progress further and function on a firm basis as a national laboratory in Aero Space Medicine.

The journal of our society is an important link, not only in propagating the objectives of the society, but also to act as a forum for bringing members together. Unfortunately this is not fully appreciated and its scope will require to be accepted further by its members. It is necessary that every member should make a sustained effort to make this journal broadbased and also self-sufficient financially.

The standard of the articles published is an indication of the progress of aviation medicine in our country, which is receiving attention abroad, as shown by requests for subscription and by bibliographies, where we are quoted freely. There is thus a need to continuously improve the standard of this journal, which is only possible with the close co-operation of each and every one of you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Once again the members are requested to turn their attention to the column "Notice to Contributors." Members are requested to follow the instructions given in the same column. The success of the Journal depends on the co-operation and active participation of every member. The Editorial Board is trying their level best to give a wide coverage. However it may not be always possible to publish each and every article received, either for want of space or for late receipt of the papers or for other reasons. Members are requested to send their papers well in advance, so that there is ample time available to get clarifications on certain points from the authors if necessary.

It is sincerely hoped that larger number of outstation contributions will be seen in our next issue of the Journal. Co-operation of every member is solicited to make the journal interesting, successful and self-sufficient financially.

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General Secretary of the Institute of Aviation Medicine  
Council Secretary of the Institute of Aviation Medicine