

Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine



Air Marshal Kuldeep Rai, AVSM, PHS

Our New President

Air Marshal Kuldeep Rai AVSM PHS took over as the President of the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine on 14 Aug 95 on assuming the office of the DGMS (Air).

Air Marshal Kuldeep Rai obtained his MBBS from Punjab University in 1959 and was commissioned in the IAF in 1961. He completed specialist training in Aviation Medicine in 1966. He obtained Post Graduate Diploma in Aviation Medicine of Bangalore University in 1975, MD Aerospace Medicine in 1980 and became the first Member of the National Academy of Medical Sciences in the field of Aerospace Medicine in the country in the same year. He has been a post graduate teacher and examiner at the Institute of Aerospace Medicine (IAM) at Bangalore since 1966 and was appointed Professor of Aviation Medicine of Bangalore University in 1980.

During his service career spanning over 35 years, Air Marshal Kuldeep Rai has held various field and staff appointments in high performance aircraft squadrons, Command HQ and Air HQ. In 1990 he was appointed PMO of an operational command which he served with distinction. In 1992 he took over as Commandant and Principal of IAM Bangalore and in 1993 he was appointed as PMO of Training Command where he served till taking over as DGMS (Air) in Aug 1995.

In the field of Aerospace Medicine Air Marshal Kuldeep Rai has done extensive pioneering work in acceleration physiology especially on Indian pilots. His special interest in the subject also involves vestibular physiology, space medi-

cine and clinical aviation medicine. Notably, he was designated as the Indian Flight Surgeon to the Indo-US Space Programme in 1985-87.

Air Marshal Kuldip Rai has also been the Indian Coordinator on Commonwealth and Indo-Soviet collaborative Research Programmes on aerospace medicine. He was also the coordinator of the Human Engineering Panel of the Aeronautical Research and Development Board, Ministry of Defence.

Air Marshal Kuldip Rai has also significantly contributed to two hand books on Aviation Medicine. He was also the editor of the Society Journal for over 5 years. In addition he was Secretary of the Society between 1987 and 1989. For his significant contributions in the field of aerospace medicine in India he was awarded Fellowship of Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine in 1977.

In 1977 Air Marshal Kuldip Rai received Commendation by Chief of the Air Staff. In 1996 he was appointed Honorary Surgeon to the President of India and in the same year he has also been conferred the Ati Vishist Seva Medal by the President of India. On the international front, for recognition of his work in the field of Aerospace Medicine, he was honoured with Membership of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine in 1994.

The Society is indeed proud to have as its head such an illustrious aeromedical specialist who has contributed to the speciality of Aerospace Medicine in India perhaps like none other. His vast and rich experience will be a guiding beacon to all those involved with this speciality in some way or the other in India. We look forward to his support in all our endeavours.