

ABOUT OUR FELLOWS

1. **Air Marshal Ajit Nath** has had a distinguished career in the Air Force during the last 35 years. A graduate of King Edward's Medical College, Lahore, he was commissioned in the IMS in 1940. He has many firsts to his credit in that he has been the first Indian Medical Officer to be appointed as PMO and now is the first Air Force Medical Officer to head the AMC. He has attended advanced courses in Aviation Medicine abroad and has also been a successful pilot. He was at the helm of Air Force Medical Services for a most fruitful innings of five years when he took over his present appointment as the DG AFMS on 1 Jan 75. He has been decorated with the PVSM for his distinguished service.

2. **Air Vice Marshal JHF Manekshaw** was commissioned in the R I A F in 1943. Since then by his dynamic personality and infectious enthusiasm, he has contributed greatly to the development of the speciality of Aviation Medicine in this country. He has been trained in the U.S.A. in this speciality and has held many key posts, the most notable amongst which is that of the Commanding Officer of the IAM from 1967 to 1973. For his distinguished services he has been awarded the AVSM. He is at present the Director of Medical Research, Ministry of Defence.

3. **Air Commodore DN Gupta** joined the Armed Forces in 1943 after a brilliant academic career. He specialised in Medicine and obtained his DTM & H (Edin), MRCP (Lond & Edin) in 1956 from the U.K. where he had another tenure as the ADMS in the Indian High Commission from 1968-1972. He has been awarded the AVSM in Jan 75, and is at present the PMO of the Western Air Command, IAF.

4. **Air Commodore BR Bhatia** was commissioned in the Armed Forces Medical Services

in Aug 43, and has been trained abroad in Aviation Medicine. He obtained his MD in Physiology in 1955 and further specialised in Environmental Physiology in Canada. His main interest has been Vision in Military Aviation, in which he has published many papers. He is at present the Director of Basic Sciences Research in the R & D Organisation of the Defence Ministry.

5. **Brigadier JM Rao** was commissioned in the Army Dental Corps in Jul 42 and since then has served in various Service Dental Establishments. He has been a pioneer in laying down the foundations of Air Force Dental Services and has been the Senior Dental Adviser to the Air Force. Under his guidance the present modern Air Force Central Dental Establishment was commissioned in 1973. He has been elected the President of the Indian Dental Association. For his distinguished services he has been awarded the AVSM. He has recently been promoted to the rank of Brigadier and is at present Dental Adviser to Central Command.

6. **Group Captain KS Rao** graduated from Andhra University with a Gold Medal in 1944 and was commissioned in the IMS/RAF. He saw action on the Burma front and subsequently held many important posts. In 1954 he was trained at the RAF IAM in Aviation Medicine and later obtained his M.Sc. and MD in Physiology. He is also a graduate of the Defence Services Staff College. He has done a tenure as Professor of Physiology at AFMC Pune and has been commended by the Chief of the Air Staff for his outstanding professional work. He is at present Officer Commanding, Institute of Aviation Medicine and the Professor of Aviation Medicine, Bangalore University. The Journal, "Aviation Medicine", is published under his Editorship.

7. **Group Captain SP Verma** joined the Indian Army in 1944 as a Medical Officer and saw action in the European theatre during World War II and later in the J & K in 1948. He was seconded to the Air Force in December 49. He was the first Medical Officer to qualify on jet fighters. He has been trained in the USA in Crash Injury Investigation and in Human Engineering. He has headed the Human Engineering Department of the IAM for a number of years and during his tenure, was decorated with the Vayu Sena Medal for his contributions to the Human Engineering aspects of Aircraft development in the HAL Bangalore, as well as his work on Bio-Telemetry from Transport aircraft. His fields of interest are Accident Investigation, Human Engineering and Medical Electronics.

8. **Group Captain VSN Murty** graduated from the Andhra University in 1946 and was commissioned in the AMC/IAF in 1948. He qualified as a pilot in 1951 and has flown with many operational squadrons of the IAF. In 1959, he obtained his D.L.O. from London University. He has been a Senior Adviser in Oto—Laryngology and a Professor of the Bangalore University since 1965. He is a member of many professional associations such as the Association of Otolaryngologists of India where he is held in great esteem for his work in Acoustics and Vestibular Physiology. He is at present the Senior Adviser and Professor of ENT and the President, Medical Evaluation Centre at IAM.

9. **Group Captain JS Sant** was commissioned in the AMC/IAF in 1948 and held various important service appointments including that of the DDMS Aviation Medicine in the Air Headquarters. He was awarded the Chief of Air Staff Medal for the best course officer in 1961. He specialised in Aviation Medicine in 1962, standing first in the course and has been a classified specialist in the field from January 68. In October 74, he was appointed as Senior Adviser in Aviation Medicine. He has also undergone the Advanced Aero Space Medicine Course in the USA. As the Director of the Aero Bio-Engineering Unit of the R & D he has master minded the design and development of indigenous flying clothing including oxygen masks,

anti 'G' suits and safety and survival equipment for the Indian Air Force, thus saving valuable Foreign Exchange. He is at present Officer Commanding, Air Force Central Medical Establishment.

10. **Group Captain SK Mukherjee** qualified from Calcutta University and joined the Services in October 48. He specialised in Aviation Medicine in May 61 and has also visited the USSR for specialised training in the subject. He obtained his MD (Physiology) in 1972 and has been designated as a Senior Adviser in Aviation Medicine this year. His field of interest is Research and Development of flying clothing and Survival Equipment.

11. **Wing Commander ML Wadhawan**. After graduating from the Amritsar Medical College in 1951, Wg Cdr Wadhawan joined the Armed Forces in the same year. He specialised in Aviation Medicine in December 62 and has also completed the Advanced Aero Space Medicine course in the USA in 1965. He has been a classified specialist in Aviation Medicine since 1968. In 1971 he obtained his MD (Physiology). His fields of interest are Hyperbaric Medicine and High Altitude Physiology and has published papers on these subjects.

12. **Wing Commander GN Kunzru** qualified from Gwalior Medical College in April 51 and joined the AMC/IAF in November 51. He served as Squadron Medical Officer with various units till 1955 when he did the Advanced Pathology Course in AFMC Pune during 1955-56. He was graded as a specialist in 1957 and obtained his MD in 1965. He has been trained in the U.K. in Aviation Accident Pathology in 69 and has since then been working as O i/c Department of Accident Investigation Pathology at IAM/IAF. His professional fields of interest are Accident Investigations and Alcohol and the flyer. He has been consulted by the Civil Aviation authorities in some of their more intriguing fatal aircraft accidents. Wg. Cdr. Kunzru is also a brilliant sportsman, having represented the Services and the Air Force in Cricket and Tennis for several years.

13. **Wing Commander KR Banerjee** did his MBBS in 1950 and was commissioned in the AMC

in 1952. He qualified as a Psychiatrist in 1960 from AFMC and since then has served as a specialist in his subject in various Armed Forces Hospitals and Institutions. He also served with the UN Forces as a Psychiatrist in the Congo. He obtained his DPM from All India Institute of Mental Health in 1968 and is a founder member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (1972). He is also an elected fellow of the Indian Psychiatric Society and the American Psychiatric Association. His current interests are Aviation Neuro-Psychiatry and Electroencephalography.

14. Wing Commander KC Sinha graduated with honours from Patna University and obtained his MD in Physiology in 1960. He has conducted research on High altitude and cold on our Himalayan borders as a member of a team on High Altitude Research under the Defence Ministry. He is at present posted as the Head of the Department of Physiology at IAM and is also a Professor of the Bangalore University. His fields of interest are Climatic and Metabolic Physiology. He is well recognised for his research in these fields and was invited to chair a symposium on Environmental Physiology during the World Physiology Congress held in New Delhi in 1974. He has been awarded the VSM for his outstanding contribution to Aviation Medicine.

15. Dr CA Verghese is a brilliant Physics graduate from Kerala, and has also obtained his Ph.D., from that University. He is also the recipient of Kerala University Silver Jubilee Research Prize, Andhra University Medal, Rama Varma Memorial Gold Medal and several other medals and prizes. He has been deputed for training in the Royal Air Force Institute of Aviation Medicine at Farnborough. He has been associated

with Aviation Medicine for more than a decade and has been contributing to the betterment of that Science and to Aviation Industry by the invaluable research he has been conducting at the IAM. His main fields of activity have been optics, Physics of Acceleration and Thermal Stress. He has designed and developed accelerometers and anthropomorphic dummies.

16. Wing Commander PM Sundaram graduated from Madras University in 1954 and joined the Armed Forces in 1955. He was the recipient of the Chief of Air Staff Medal for the best course officer in 1960. He specialised in Aviation Medicine in 1962. He did his DPH in 1965 and in 1968 graduated in Aero Space Medicine from the School of Aero Space Medicine, USA. He has commanded No. 2 A.M.U. for a period of 3 years and has also been elected as an Associate fellow of the Aero Space Medical Association of the USA. He is a member of that Association since 1968. He took his MD in Medicine from Madras in 1974 and is at present, posted as O i/c Aero-Bio Engineering unit of the R & D organization. He has various research publications to his credit. He is one of the Editors of "Aviation Medicine."

17. Wing Commander N Mohan Murali has been a pioneer in the development of Bio Medical Engineering in the IAF medical services. He has been taking part in various conferences in his subject in this country and abroad. He has helped in the development of Bio Medical equipment, and under his expert guidance, the complex and valuable electronic equipment of the IAM has had an unblemished record. He was awarded the VSM for his distinguished services. He is at present on deputation to IIT Madras. He is the founder president of the Biomedical Engineering Association of India.