

e d i t o r i a l

The June 1989 issue of our Journal is just out. Presently the gap between our intention and achievement is of two issues i.e. December 1989 and June 1990. Our earnest hope is that we would be on the target by this year itself.

The present issue, a Supplement, is the first venture of its kind in respect of our Journal and let us spell out our intention. With the continued publication of back issues, we were lagging behind in offering to our members and readers the current news of the Society. This Supplement issue will keep us updated on that account. We also take this opportunity to highlight a few salient features on Civil Aviation.

The year 1989 has seen 50 years of revolutionary jet age of aviation. Over these years both the domestic and international passengers traffic have increased remarkably. An estimated figure of passengers on scheduled services in the world airlines crossed one million mark in 1988 itself. The long term forecasts by International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) indicate a doubling of the

1988 figures of passenger and freight traffic by the year 2000. We felt it would be highly appropriate to publish some relevant articles on public health connected to civil aviation. To this effect, we reprint "Inflight Disinsection as an Efficacious Procedure for Preventing International Transport of Insects of Public Health Importance" originally published in the Bulletin of World Health Organisation, May 1989 and "Aeromedical Advice for Aircraft Passengers", the views of two medical doctors on safety in flight and on common physiological problems encountered by air passengers, originally published in ICAO Bulletin, May 1989. Our sincere thanks to WHO and ICAO authority for their kind permission in reprinting the respective articles which we are sure will be highly appreciated by readers.

We also take this opportunity in welcoming our New President, Air Marshal PM Sundaram, AVSM, Director General of Medical Services, (Air), who has taken over the stewardship of the Society since 30 April, 1990.