



Secretary General's Message

It is with a deep sense of gratitude that I stand before you after completing four eventful years as the Secretary General of APCRI. Our prestigious fifteen year old organization has bestowed upon me, enough opportunities to excel and memories to cherish. The period from 2009 to 2013 has brought lot of challenges threatening the policies, practices and relationships which were in vogue in the academic as well as corporate milieu. However APCRI has maintained its rational and ethical stand throughout and emerged as the *true national organization* working in the field of prevention and control of rabies in India.

I express my sincere gratitude to the esteemed members of our executive committee Dr. M. K. Sudarshan, Founder President-Mentor, Dr. Bankim Patnaik & Dr. M. N. Siddiqui, Vice-Presidents, Dr. A. K. Gupta, Joint Secretary, Dr. S. K. Garg & Dr. J. S. Hanspal, North Zonal Reps, Dr Sumit Poddar, Dr. Shobha Malini, East Zonal Reps, Dr. Kshirsagar Vikas & Dr. S. W. Kamble, West Zonal Reps, Dr. Ranjana Tiwari & Dr. R. S. Sharma, Central Zonal Reps, Dr. J. Ravi Kumar & Dr. B. R. Harish, South Zonal Reps, Dr. D.H. Ashwath Narayana, H.Q. Liason Officer, and our esteemed advisors Dr. S. N. Madhusudana, Dr. R.L Ichhpujani, Maj. Gen. (Dr.) R.M. Kharb, Dr. B.J. Mahendra, Dr. Veena Mittal, Dr. Mala Chhabra and Dr. S. Elango. Without their support I could have never ensured the patronage of Indian Public Health Association in identifying rabies as a public health priority and IDRV as an effective tool for prevention.

I am grateful to Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, our President, and Dr. V. Srinivas Rao, Treasurer who have given me the unique opportunity of organizing the 4th APCRICON in Pune (2009 in Thiruvananthapuram, 2010 in New Delhi and 2011 in Chennai).

Our website www.apcri.org has been updated and in full bloom since November 2009. So far, more than 2000 queries from India and abroad have come to the **Ask an Expert** section, which were promptly answered within 06 to 12 hours. I sincerely thank Dr. G. Sampath, Immediate Past President who is the expert behind the webpage.

I place on record my sincere gratitude to Dr Amlan Goswami, our Editor who has supported the goal of *A Rabies Free India by 2020*, by promptly publishing the news, letters and journals almost single handedly.

It is the passion for saving an innocent human life that has brought us together and let us continue to work together till our goal is achieved!

Date: 6th July, 2013.

Place: Thiruvananthapuram.

**Prof. (Dr.) Thomas Mathew
Secretary General, APCRI**