



Secretary General's Report

Dear members

Welcome to the 14th annual national conference 'APCRICON 2012' at Kolkata from 6th to 8th July 2012. Our theme this year “Towards a Sustainable Rabies Control Programme in India – An One Health Initiative.” is timely and will bear the torch for our activities in the coming years.

As the nodal officer of IDRV implementation in Kerala for the last three and a half years (since March 2009), I am convinced that post exposure prophylaxis alone will not be sufficient to eliminate human rabies. It is high time we consider pre exposure prophylaxis especially in children combined with active and sustained efforts in animal rabies elimination. We require more political and administrative support at the national and state levels coupled with inter sectoral co operation from the departments of Health, Animal husbandry and Local self governments. I request all the members of APCRI to come together for this cause and act as torch bearers at the local, state and national levels.

APCRI has come a long way since its inception in 1998 and has emerged as the true national voice of rabies control activities in India. Time has come for us to join hands with other national organizations in public health like the Indian Public Health Association (IPHA) and IAPSM. We also need to establish our academic credibility through research and documentation. The **APCRI Journal** has motivated a number of young scientists to take up research in the fields of human and animal rabies. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the tireless efforts of **Dr Amlan Goswami** who has single handedly brought out the last 14 issues without a break! We should support him to get our journal indexed.

I assure you that APCRICON 2012 will be an academic feast like the previous conferences. This time, there will be both oral and poster presentations depicting latest research work from all parts of our country in addition to the inspiring presence of international and national stalwarts in field of rabies. Welcome to Kolkata!

Date: 1st July, 2012
Place: Thiruvananthapuram

Dr. Thomas Mathew
Secretary General, APCRI