IMA Thiruvananthapuram Branch

IMA Trivandrum Branch is the oldest branch of IMA Kerala State and was formed before independence in the year 1933. Dr.C.O.Karunakaran was the Founder President and Dr.K.Raman Thampi Founder Secretary of Trivandrum Branch. In the beginning there was no office to function, but the meetings were held in the residence of office bearers. Dr. Ravi Varma was the second President and Dr.Kesavan Nair second Secretary. The 3rd President was a lady, Mrs. Punnen Lukose and Secretary Dr.S.Padmanabha Pillai, Dr. Jacob Thaliyath and Dr.B.M.Ambady as next president and secretary. Dr. C.O Karunakaran was again become the 5th president and Dr. P. Krishna Moorthy as secretary.

Dr. B.M Ambady was instrumental for the present IMA Building. First the office was functioning in the residences of office bearers and IMA could find a room at General Hospital its activities. 20 cents form TB Centre compound was allotted to IMA & Red Cross to construct the present building. Dr.B.M.Ambady played an important role to build the present IMA Building. Dr. Ambady was controlling both Trivandrum IMA and Red Cross and was in charge of Red Cross. He started the construction of the building both for IMA and Red Cross in 1963 and finished in 1967. The foundation stone for the present building was laid by the then Governor Sri.V.V.Giri in October 13th 1963. The building completed in 1967 and was inaugurated by Dr. Suseela Nayyar Union Minister of health on 14th January 1967. The building was jointly constructed by IMA & Red Cross. The agreement between was ground floor will be occupied by Red Cross and 1st Floor will be occupied by IMA. The construction cost will be shared between IMA and Red Cross. Major fund was invested by Red Cross and IMA Trivandrum refunded the amount in installments. The IMA office which was functioning temporarily in a room in General hospital Trivandrum was shifted to the present IMA building -Red cross Road, Opposite General hospital Trivandrum with Mr. Madhu as the first office secretary. That time the dinner meetings were held at Trivandrum Club.

In 1975 Dr.Krishna Moorthy the president and Secretary DR. P.V George organized a benefit show Drama - “Thuvalum Thumbayum” written by Madavoor Bhasi the great dramatist, at VJT hall. They could collect sufficient fund from the benefit show to settle the account with Red Cross in 1975.

IMA Thiruvananthapuram is the oldest branch in Travancore Cochin. Calicut Branch started in the year 1931-32, but that time they belong to Madras State and not in Travancore Cochin State. They become part of Kerala only in the new formation of Kerala State in 1957. Even in the olden
days IMA Trivandrum branch is very vibrant Branch and contributed several leaders to the State, National and international level. Dr. C.O. Karunakaran becomes the first National President of IMA from Kerala in 1958-59.Dr.V.C Velayudhan Pillai was the second National President of IMA from Kerala in 1987-88 and in the next year he become the first president of Asia Oceana Medical Association in 1989. We have two Past National IMA Vice presidents, Dr. A. Marthanda Pillai becomes the National Vice President in 2002 and Dr. K. Jayaram in 2008.

Other State presidents and State Secretaries were:

- Dr. B. M. Ambady becomes the State Secretary in the year 1957-58 & 1959-60, Dr. Anantha Narayan State secretary in 1958-59 and he again become State President in 1973-74, Dr. V.C Velayudhan Pillai became the state Secretary in 1985-86 & 1986-87, and State president in 1987-1988, Dr. A Sankara Pillai becomes State President IMA in 1986-87, Dr. A. Marthanda Pillai State Secretary 1988-89 and become the State President 1990-91, Dr. Jayaram State president in 1996-97, Dr. T. Suresh Kumar became State Secretary in 2000-2001 and 2002-2003, Dr. Alex Franklin become the state President in 2007-08.

IMA Thiruvananthapuram branch bagged several awards from State and National Level. Dr. SS Rao award for the Best Branch of Kerala in 2002-03, Dr. G. Vijayakumar as president and Dr. Sreejith N. Kumar as branch secretary. Pareed Pillai award for the second Best branch of Kerala in 2003-04, Dr. Alex Franklin as branch president and Dr. Sreejith N. Kumar & Dr. C. Thankappan were Secretaries (6 months each).

We organized several state and National conferences:

- In 1956 All India Medical Conference was organized at Thiruvananthapuram under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. O Karunakaran and Dr. B. M Ambady as organising secretary. In 1992 the 77th All India National Conference was held at Trivandrum. Dr. V. C. Velayudhan Pillai was Organizing Committee Chairman and Dr. T. Suresh Kumar org. Secretary.

- In 1964 the 8th IMA State Conference was held at Trivandrum, Dr. M. Thankavelu as organising Committee Chairman and Dr. T. C Joseph as Org. Secretary. The 28th IMA State Conference was held in 1984 at Trivandrum Dr. K. V Krishnadas as chairman and Dr. A. Sankara Pillai as the org. Secretary.

- 8th IMA CGP National Conference was held at Trivandrum in 1990 Dr. V. C Velayudhan Pillai as Organising Committee Chairman and Dr. A Marthanda Pillai Org. Secretary.
27th IMA CGP National Conference “IMA CGP TRICON 2009” was organized at Thiruvananthapuram in the IMA Kerala State Head Quarters Building, Anayara on 3rd & 4th 2009. Dr.Alex Franklin Organising Committee Chairman and Dr. Vinaya Ranjan as Org: Secretary

Projects of IMA Thiruvananthapuram:-

1. ACT FORCE (Accident Care Task Force) formed in 1995 and registered as Society- ACT FORCE with Reg. No: 525/1995 under the chairmanship of then Collector Smt. Aruna Sundararaj and Dr.S.S.Lal was the Founder secretary of ACT FORCE. It was under the joint auspices of IMA Trivandrum & LIC Trivandrum with the help of Trade Unions and Traffic Police.; the contributions of Mr. Mani Paul and Mr.Mithreyan to the noble cause are remembered well. Dr.Anantha Narayanan subsequently takes over charge.

2. Let us go to the Village project: Organising several medical Camps and screening programmes regularly.

3. Women’s Wing:- Trivandrum branch is the pioneer in starting women’s Wing even in National Level. Dr. Ayisha Begam and Dr.Rita Cross were the stalwarts in this field. Women’s wing regularly conducting several medical check up and screening programs for women & children in the Districts

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Prepared by

22/02/2004

Dr. Alex Franklin
Past President IMA KSB