Society News

75th AsMA Meeting, Anchorage, Alaska, USA

The 75th annual scientific meeting of AsMA at Anchorage, Alaska, USA was attended by a four member official delegation from IAF. The team was led by the DGMS (Air) and President ISAM Air Mshl PK Sarkar. It included Gp Capt Navin Rattan VSM, Wg Cdr Deepak Gaur and Wg Cdr PC Ghosh. The other members of ISAM at AsMA 2004 included Dr Bhupinder Singh, Dr Surendra Sodhi, Dr Ashok Dhingra, Dr Pooshan Navathe, Dr Sundhanshu Mishra, Dr Rajib Ghosh, Dr Sarita Dara and Dr Gopalkrishnan MS.

Dr Pooshan Navathe was selected as a Fellow of Aerospace Medical Association. Dr Navathe is the first Indian citizen to have received the AsMA fellowship. Dr. Bhupinder Singh and Dr. Navathe also received another rare honour of members of International Academy of Aerospace Medicine.

Dr Bhupinder Singh, Dr Navin Rattan, Dr Pooshan Navathe, Dr Deepak Gaur, Dr PC Ghosh, Dr Rajib Ghosh, Dr Sarita Dara and Dr Gopalakrishnan MS presented scientific papers. All presentations and posters were well attended and appreciated. Dr Navathe had an impressive list of nine abstracts to his name and also co-chaired two sessions. On one of these, the international medical certification panel, Dr Deepak Gaur made a presentation on civil aviation medical certification in India.

A panel presentation on Indian Aerospace Medicine was attended by a good cross section of the delegates. Dr Bhupinder Singh and Dr Pooshan Navathe chaired it. Dr Surinder Sodhi spoke on history of aerospace medicine in India, Dr Pooshan Navathe on current aerospace medicine training in India, Dr Navin Rattan on aerospace physiology research, Dr PC Ghosh on human factors research, Dr Sudhanshu Mishra on Space Medicine and Dr Deepak Gaur on civil aviation medicine aspects in our country. The panel was very enthusiastically received.

Society member wins prestigious award

Dr Munna Khan, an active life-member of the society has been conferred with ‘Career award for young teacher’ for the year 2004 from the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi. The award comprises of a research grant of Rs 10,50,000/-, which he can utilize in a period of three years on research projects including requirements of purchase of laptop, books and journals as well as for travel every year for three years for field work, data collection or paper presentation both within and outside the country.

Wing Commander Narinder Taneja was awarded the Joseph L Haley Award for the best paper published in the area of rotary wing aviation medicine. The award was founded in recognition of Joseph L Haley’s contribution to the aeromedical safety literature. The paper was titled ‘Analysis of injury among pilots killed in fatal helicopter accidents’. It was published in April 2004 issue of Aviation, Space and Environmental Medicine. The award was presented at the annual luncheon of AsMA on 3 May 2004 at Anchorage, Alaska.