

# INDIAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION, KERALA

## OFFICE BEARERS

President	: Dr. Robin D Culas	Gen. Secretary	: Dr. D Sanjay
Vice President (NZ)	: Dr. K.J. John	Joint Secretary (NZ)	: Dr. C Anilkumar
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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members of the profession.

First of all let me thank all the members for their support they have rendered during the year 2006. This year we have intervened through workshops in four major issues, such as Animal Nutrition, Zoonosis control and ethno veterinary medicine, organic farming and swine fever. The recommendations on these has already been submitted to Government. We cooperated and associated with all organizations working in the interest of the profession and sector.

Animal Husbandry sector in Kerala was rocked by incidences of Swine Fever in Wayanad, Kozhikode and Thrissur. It is disheartening to see the media spreading panic among pig farmers. There should be a check to prevent media as well as technocrats giving irresponsible statements through media. I am sure Pig farmers and vets will survive the challenge due to swine fever. Proper reporting of diseases is highly essential for control of any disease. Departments should encourage reporting and discourage under reporting and not reporting of infectious and contagious diseases.

The 11<sup>th</sup> plan formulation is underway, animal husbandry sector has been given a major, which I feel is a great recognition to the sector. The policy makers have realized the employment generation and poverty alleviation potential of the sector. We should be able to make farmer friendly, implementable and innovative projects and at the same time more subsidies should be given to farmers engaged in animal husbandry sector like what is given in agriculture sector. In 10<sup>th</sup> plan, subsidy/assistance was as per SGSY norms which is nominal, (maximum 30%) that too it is given only for BPL families. But in the case of agriculture subsidy is ranging from 50 – 100% and the classification is based on land holding. In this circumstances production oriented programmes could not be undertaken in animal husbandry sector. This disparity has to be taken up and the sector given subsidy in par with agriculture. We hope atleast in 11<sup>th</sup> five year plan the policies in livestock sector will focus on retaining farmers already engaged in livestock sector as well as promoting entrepreneurship. For this we suggest that the BPL/APL classification should be erased, Production incentives and feed subsidy should be given, and we should also think of Public Private participation in exploring the Meat sector. It is high time that Government should think of establishing a fully automated Central Referral Laboratory in the State for nutritive analysis and Quality Control/testing. The Quality Control/testing may also be enforced for milk and meat. It is embarrassing to notice that there is no Legislations to regulate/ensure quality standards in

manufacturing/selling or/and distribution of compounded feeds, concentrates and mineral mixtures. We request the Government to consider fodder as a "crop" and should receive the same attention of the Government as that is being provided to other crops. Benefits of the Special Livestock Breeding Programme (SLBP) are to be provided to all calves from the day of weaning and buffalo calves to be included in the programme. It is ideal to start nucleus and satellite units for cattle, goats & pigs to meet the demand for meat, milk and egg. Animal Husbandry activities can be promoted in the Schools and colleges like the earn while u learn scheme of Kerala Agricultural university. Inputs can be provided by the Department. This will definitely promote interest in young generation. Surveillance of diseases is another thrust area for proper disease control especially on various diseases of economic and zoonotic importance. We are happy to note that Government is focusing on Equipping laboratories for diagnosis of all prevalent livestock & poultry diseases.

I regret to see the approach of the young blood that recently started their career, showing less interest in association activities, concentrating only on their clinical practice. Young Vets should come forward and become office bearers as a duty or rather commitment to the profession. I also take this opportunity to invite all our vets to closely associate with the activities of the associations and work selflessly.

I also call upon the old and experienced faces to come back and take up leadership of IVA without being obsessed by petty quarrels and misconceptions. So forget the past and let us work together to achieve our goals.

I thank District Secretaries of IVA, Dr. Reghu Ravindran from wayanad, Dr. Biju P Habeeb from Thrissur, Dr. P. Selvakumar from Trivandrum for the whole hearted support they have rendered for conducting statel level programmes. I also congratulate Dr. P. L. Thomas, President, IVA, Alappuzha for the effort of the unit in popularizing rabbit farming in the district. Dr. S. Gopakumar and his team of editorial board members deserve special appreciation for bringing out 11 issues of informative news letters. The effort taken by Dr. Shibu Simon, Editor and his team in bringing out such a three useful and informative JIVA is commendable. The quality of the contents and the lay out is improving every year, so also the demand for the journal from various parts of the country.

On the behalf of IVA thank the sister organizations viz KVSSA and AHOAK for their support in the activities during the year. All the three association could take up many issues without any difference of opinion.

Dr. Robin D Culas