CMAI bid farewell to Dr Bimal Charles who served as the General Secretary since 2012. Dr Priya John, who was previously the acting head of the Community Health Department, has taken charge as the new head of the organization.

Mixed emotions diffused throughout the Farewell and Welcome function at the Bible Bhavan in New Delhi on July 5, 2019: the sadness of leaving the old CEO and the joy of welcoming the new one. The august audience felt at ease as Ms Mercy John, Editor of the Christian Medical Journal of India (CMJI) and the Principal, College of Nursing, Christian Hospital, Bissamcuttack compered the event with her unpretentious and witty interludes.

Senior staff and General Body members of CMAI, members representing institutions of CMAI network, leading NGOs and senior Government officials, friends and families attended the function. Ms Onenlemla Imsong, Vice President of CMAI (Chaplain, Bangalore Baptist Hospital) opened the function with a prayer. Dr Ajit Singh, President of CMAI welcomed the gathering and Mr Vilas Shende, Director of Mure Memorial Hospital, Nagpur offered felicitations.

During his tenure at CMAI, Dr Charles led the organization commendably, said Dr Sudhir Joseph, the former President (CMAI) and the Director of St. Stephens Hospital, Delhi. Dr Charles made strong links with the government and other leading agencies in the country, he added. Dr Joseph narrated the tough road traversed by Dr Charles during the past seven years.

Dr Bimal Charles, responding to the felicitations, said that he was leaving the organization with contentment, and now after these seven years, he learned to smile while facing challenges. He stressed the need for prioritizing life’s important factors such as the family.

In his devotional address, Rev Timothy Shaw, presbyter of Free Church, CNI Diocese, quoting from the Bible, said Dr Charles “fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith.” He gave this statement a twist, saying, that Dr Bimal is continuing the fight, continuing the race, and keeping the good faith.

Ms Anuvinda Varkey, Executive Director of the Christian Coalition for Health (CCH) introduced Dr Priya John. (Please read the brief biography of Dr Priya on Page 2)

Dr Bonam Wesley, Chairperson of...
the Doctors Section and the Director of Arogyavaram Hospital in Madanappalli, AP, on behalf of the Board, welcomed Dr Priya to the seat of General Secretary.

**JUST ACCEPT AS I AM**

In her response speech ‘Receiving the Baton,’ Dr Priya John said she had taken the decision to assume this position after getting a firm assurance from God who showed affirmations from everywhere. She thanked her family members, who were present at the occasion, for their motivation and support. Concluding her speech, she requested her staff and friends: “Just accept me as I am.”

Rev. Johnson Mathew, Regional Secretary, Kerala and the Manager of St Thomas Mission Hospital, closed the function with prayer and benediction. We appreciate the melodious rendition of devotional songs during the function by the CMAI choir comprising Ms Intimenla Aier, Ms Abokali and Mr J. Kilong Mangcha.

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**Introducing Dr Priya John, the New GS and CEO**

**Meet Dr. Priya Letitia John,** who took charge as the General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of Christian Medical Association of India on July 8, 2019. She is the first Indian woman who has assumed this office in the history of CMAI.

**Education:** After MBBS from CMC, Vellore, she took MD in Community Medicine from St. John’s Medical College Bengaluru and later received the Diplomate of the National Board (DNB) in Social and Preventive medicine.

**Professional Biography:** Dr Priya has worked in different areas of community health, teaching, palliative care and research. While working at the Bangalore Baptist hospital she managed the community based outreach programme for the hospital. During this time she began a DOTS centre in the main hospital in Bangalore.

When her family moved to Coimbatore she joined the PSG Medical College as an assistant professor. When the family relocated to Delhi she worked as a Palliative care physician in a hospice providing end of life care for terminally ill cancer patients.

**In CMAI:**

In May 2012, Dr. Priya joined the CMAI as a senior programme coordinator, and later as acting head of Community Health Department. Here she gained valuable experience in administration, project writing, monitoring and evaluation. She was selected as the General Secretary while working as the Senior Coordinator on the Project Management Evaluation and Learning (PMEL) Desk of CMAI. Dr Priya has represented CMAI at various forums such as GAVI-CSO platform, The Centre for Bio-ethics (TCB) and has also been the Chairperson of the Alliance for Immunisation and Health (AiH).

Dr Priya John comes from a family which has Christian commitment and a passion for healthcare. Her parents Dr. Ragini and Dr. Stanley Macaden have been doctors serving the poor through their work in mission hospitals. Her in-laws Mrs. Lily and Col. John have been involved in the Gideons ministry for decades. Her husband Dr. Suviraj is a renowned surgeon in Delhi and her son Arpith is in class 11 pursuing his studies in science.
FROM THE DESK OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Bring out Things that are of Good Report

Philippians 4:8: “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”

As I began writing my last column in LFA as General Secretary of CMAI, I looked up to Apostle Paul, the most inspiring evangelist and Christian apologist who was never tired of speaking out the Gospel truths but was willing to give his life for the sake of Christ.

I wish CMAI, as an organisation as well as a network, stands steadfast in offering honest and just services in a world where health services are not necessarily pure and lovely. We come across so many cases of dishonest medical practices, inclined to follow unethical deeds which are impure and corrupt. Such practices remove empathy and compassion which are essential for our generation.

Some of our medical institutions, I notice lately, struggle in a highly competitive environment to hold their heads high, above reproach, as they grapple with the conundrum of hiring good doctors, specialists and skilled labour force. The unregulated and poorly monitored private sector has begun the exploitation of the people of all classes, practice dishonesty and corruption in purchases and contracts, and hurt the upright ones when they are most vulnerable.

As individuals, leaders and institutions of the Lord, we are called to be honest, just, pure, lovely and to bring out things that are of good report.

May God be with you and bless you as you continue the journey.

Bimal Charles
General Secretary

DEVOTION

Children are like Flowers; Allow them to Bloom

A family along with their nine-month old daughter was sleeping on the terrace. A 28-year-old drunkard kidnapped the girl child and brutally raped her. By the time they caught the accused and took the child to a hospital, she died.

I struggled to understand why such things happen in this world and started to think on what Bible says about children? How people especially Jesus, treated children?

Almost all interpreters of Matthew’s Gospel have considered Chapter 18:1-35 as a literary unit. 18:1 begins the context and 18:35 ends it. Chapter 19 confirms that with the beginning verse “when Jesus had finished saying...” We observe the location (Galilee) and the audience (Pharisees) changed.

But, this pericope is part of a larger teaching unit of Jesus (18:1 - 19:15) in which the people are instructed about ‘childlikeness and the kingdom’. This section has references to children as model recipients of the Reign. Each pericope speaks about two kinds of people: “the Vulnerable and the Responsible.”

The vulnerable are the children in context and are presented as valuable and worth restoring/protecting. The responsible group is called to restore those who seem to be insignificant, and on whom Jesus places a special value.

At its simplest level, this story tells us that Jesus loves, welcomes and blesses children and so should we. Jesus uses this opportunity to reiterate one of His oft-repeated points, that is about the Godly concern. To abuse a child’s trust is the greatest sin we can ever conceive; to love and protect them is the finest gift we can offer.

Jesus portrays himself as the one who restores and protects the weak and vulnerable. In all the Gospels, we see God’s tender heart for children. Jesus wants His listeners to understand the dangers of succumbing to temptation.

Let us understand that children are like flowers and we should allow them to bloom, and not wilt.

Mr. Golla Manoj is a student at Gurukul Lutheran Theological College Chennai.
CARE India renewed the contract for 40 Nurse Mentor Supervisors (NMS) from June 1, 2019. Twenty NMS were replaced to the remaining modules of the project.

According to NITI Ayog Report 2918 the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) in Bihar has recorded the third highest (165 for 1,00,000 live births), next only to Assam (237) and UP (201). The national average of MMR is 130. The infant mortality rate is also higher in Bihar (38 for 1000 live births) compared to the other states.

To address this situation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and CARE India launched a programme in 2015 – AMANAT - meaning “something precious” which aimed at improving maternal and neonatal health outcomes in the government facilities through providing skills and management at the healthcare facilities.

The results of the first phase had been commendable and the next phase AMANAT Jyoti Project started in December 2018. In this the nurse mentor supervisors (NMS) trained nurses in 364 hospitals in Bihar. The orientation was given at CMAI office and skill test was given at Safdarjung Hospital, TNAI Noida, Lady Hardinge Hospital and National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW).

The NMS underwent their practical orientation at different Mission Hospitals for one week- Broadwell Christian Hospital, Fatehpur, Christian Hospital Chhatarpur, MP, Holy Family Hospital, Kurji, Patna, Duncan Hospital, Ruxaul, and SS Hospital, Tripolia, Patna.

The team of NMS arrived in Patna, Bihar in the 1st week of January 2018 and were trained in the Modules by CARE India and Simulations by Pronto International in Patna till February 2nd week.

Currently the NMS have completed the Module 2 of AMANAT Jyoti Project and the Module 3 is currently on going and will be completed by August 2nd week.

**Review Meetings:** CARE India organized review meetings for the NMS, DRU teams and the State teams after the completion of the Modules. Review meeting after module 2 was held in Patna, from March 13 to 15, 2019. During the meetings the NMS shared their experiences and gave suggestions for improvement. Periodic Regional review meetings are held in the districts coordinated by the CTEs and DRU team for the NMS to discuss their work.

_Ms Jancy Johnson, Secretary, Nurses League_

**Ward Managers training –Third Batch**

The third batch of ward Managers training program has started from April 2019. Nineteen participants from twelve mission hospitals have been enrolled for the training. The first contact programme was held at CMAI headquarters in April 2019.

Onsite training has been scheduled from 1st to 6th of July 2019 at CMC Hospital Vellore.
New Courses for Administrators

The two-year distance education course on “LAWS ON HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION” is ready to be rolled out. It is under distance mode. The one-year Certificate course has been going on for the last five years. Therefore, we are re-creating the curriculum for a post-graduate diploma course for two years.

This course will equip a hospital administrator to deal with many statutory requirements which are now compulsorily enforced by the government authorities.

We firmly believe that the PG Diploma on “Laws on hospital Administration” with two years duration, if certified by a reputed University, would be recognized respected and would be of great help for our institutions.

For more information, contact Ms Elsy John, ejohn@cmai.org

DIPLOMA IN HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION (DHA)

This is a one-year distance learning programme integrating theory and practice for healthcare workers in small mission hospitals in rural and semi-urban areas. This course will be conducted by Christian Medical College Vellore (CMC) in collaboration with Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI).

The staff of small hospitals face big challenges from rising patient expectations, expanding regulatory requirements and the rapid pace of changing healthcare services.

All candidates must have hospital experience of five years. Basic qualifications: Diploma Nurse or any accredited bachelor’s or postgraduate degree.

Ms. Elsy John
Secretary, Administrators Section

Webinar for Nurses by CMC- CNE Dept

From July 30, 2019, CMAI is starting a new webinar series for nurses, which will be presented by the Continuing Nursing Education and Research Department, College of Nursing, CMC, Vellore. The tentative dates are July 30, August 06, 20, 27, September 03, 10 and 17, 2019

How to join the Webinar?

Download Adobe Connect software (free) from the internet into your mobile device or laptop. Click on the link https://cmai.adobeconnect.com/nursingCNE/

Join the virtual classroom as Guest. Write your name, or the institution’s name in case you are joining as a group. Use the chat box to comment or ask questions.

Local Committee Meeting of North West Region, at CMC Ludhiana.
CMAI organized its Regional Conference for the Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand region on April 26, 2019 at Prabhat Tara, Utratia, Lucknow, UP. 36 members attended. The conference took off with praise and worship led by the youth group from St. Vianney Church.

The Regional Secretary, Dr. Arvind Deshmukh delivered his welcome address and introduced the resource persons and dignitaries on the dais. Rev. Dr. Ravi Tiwari, former Registrar, Senate of Serampore led the devotion on the theme for 2019 – “Who Touched Me?” In a heart touching speech, Dr Tiwari asked “Whom do we want to touch in our ministry?”

Prof. Brig. U. B. Mishra, Professor and Head, Hospital Administration, Chief Medical Superintendent, Trauma Center at King George Medical University made a simple presentation on Hospital Accreditation and different accreditations available in India. He mentioned that there is only 1% difference between human beings and chimpanzees – the same is the difference between quality. Quality should be 100% and not 99%. The aim of accreditation is organizational development, he added.

Session II was led by Dr. Stanley Macaden, Ex-Director, Bangalore Baptist Hospital, Honorary Palliative Care Consultant, BBH on the topic of Palliative Care. Ms Indira K presented Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for Mission Hospitals.

During the Business Session, all the existing committee members of the region were recognized for their contributions and new members were elected to replace those who had completed their term.

Rev. Samuel Richmond, Faculty of Theology, Allahabad University, shared his profound thoughts on Healing Ministry in India. The conference ended with a prayer by Fr. Praveen Quadras, Director, Diocesan Social Work Centre.

SEED, MAHARASHTRA AND GOA CONFERENCE

The first day of the Regional Conference of Maharashtra and Goa was dedicated for Students Empowering and Enriching Directive (SEED) programme to engage students in public health.

During the session, Dr. Nitin Joseph, CEO of N.M. Wadia Hospital, Pune emphasized the need for recognizing the call to mission and our role in the present social context.

Ms. Priyadarshini Pearl John, Prof. D.Y. Patil College of Nursing, Navi Mumbai spoke on Soft Skills in Healthcare.

The conference was on 24-25 May 2019 at the Animation Renewal Centre, Panvel, Navi Mumbai.

On the second day, Mr. Vilas Shende, Director, Mure Memorial Hospital welcomed the gathering. Later Dr. Priya John, General Secretary Designate in her speech, introduced the work of CMAI.

Dr. Lincy Jacob, HoD Transfusion Medicine & Immunohematology, Dr. L.H. Hiranandani Hospital presented on ‘Leadership in Healthcare’. She showed a video on the life of Dr. Ida Scudder. Coming from a corporate set-up, Dr. Lincy was able to relate to the mission hospitals.

Ms. Indira K, spoke on hospital accreditation. Ms. Sangeeta Sane, Principal, Government college of Nursing, Akola concluded and Pastor Swarge, Ashwood Memorial Hospital closed the conference with a prayer.

Both Regional Conference Reports by Ms Indira K.
Manager Development & Special Projects
Life for All

On the Road to NABH

As a part of the Organizational Development (OD) Process, CMAI and CMC organized a two-day training for 19 hospitals on NABH accreditation basics on July 18 and 19, 2019. The venue was at the CMC Bagayam campus.

Based on the discussions with technical experts early this year, a concept note was shared to ensure a clear understanding of the process. A feasibility study of a software tool in monitoring the NABH process was also submitted. Dr Lallu Joseph and team of the CMC Distance Education Department handled the NABH entry level standards and protocols. Mr Anand Joshua, Executive Director, CMAI will have a follow-up plan for each hospital for the next three months. The presentation of achievements will be done on November 7, from 9 am to 2 pm at the pre-conference of CMAI’s 45th Biennial Conference in Hyderabad.

OD PROCESS

Remember the Past, Upgrade Service: Dr B. Wesley

Dr. Bonam Wesley, Director, Arogyavaram Medical Centre, Madanapalle, and the Chairperson of Doctors Section of CMAI in his felicitation address, at the AP Telangana Regional Conference, spoke on Christian healthcare - present scenario and a way forward. He extolled the sacrificial life of missionaries of yesteryears.

He urged the need for upgrading the healthcare service which should be qualified by compassion, sincerity and commitment.

Andhra Pradesh and Telengana Region conducted its regional conference on June 22, 2019, at Hotel Southern Grand Vijayawada. 92 participants from 13 institutions attended. Ex-Commissioner Victoria Devavaram, Salvation Army Baptla, led the devotion and Regional Secretary Dr.P.C.Rao welcomed the participants. Rev. Bishop K.Jeevan Roy inaugurated the function and Dr.Paul Pilli delivered the keynote address.

Mrs. Grace Matelida addressed the nursing students and spoke on the need for love, humility, and the compassion of Jesus Christ as the sterling qualities of nurses. It is more important to express these qualities through physical and spiritual touch. In a brief speech, Rev Theo, Generation of India Church, Chittoor, urged the pastors to join CMAI in its Engage Disability programme. Worship by students and staff of Arogyavaram Medical Centre.

Mrs. Elsy John, Secretary, Administrators Section

AP TELANGANA CONFERENCE

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Marketing Your Vision Globally

Are you giving POTENTIAL DONORS an opportunity to partner, by communicating what you believe? Do you have a fundraising strategy? Why not go online alongside the traditional offline approaches?

Popular social media used are Website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Blogs.

Why consider fundraising using online media?
- Easier than the traditional approach.
- Reach a larger target audience with lesser investment of time, money and manpower with no geographical boundaries.
- Initial investment is relatively less. All you need is to invest in a website which is THE window to your organization. Hardware required is a computer with internet and a dedicated manpower.
- Output can be clearly tracked against the investment.
- Campaigns can be paused and resumed easily as required

Tips to make effective use of Social media as a fund-raising tool:
- Primarily there should be a fundraising strategy.
- Your organization web site should have those key words which ensure your product / service features on top of the search list.
- Website should be dynamic and mobile responsive.
- Integrate your payment gateways by giving options of different service providers.
- Upload Social media pages regularly.
- Start with organic campaign and move towards small investments.
- Create a Campaign Management system.
- Integrate with Google analytics.

CHAPLAINS SECTION

Practice and Theology in Healing Ministry

CMAI and the Senate of Serampore jointly organized the workshop on ‘Practice and theology of Healing Ministry’ from June 26 - 28, 2019 at Senate office, Senate of Serampore Kolkata. 42 participants attended the workshop from different colleges/institutions, and hospitals.

The workshop focused on the need of both theory and practice for theological students under the Senate of Serampore College.

The discussion led to a collective understanding that theoretical learning of theology alone does not totally cater to the needs of the people in the practical ministry.

The proposed subject unlike many other subjects includes both the aspects. Students would require to write a thematic paper to cover the real life situation of the people.

Ms. Intimenla Aier
Secretary, Chaplains Section
LEGAL ISSUES

Responsibility of Employers in POSH

Several cases of sexual harassment of women at the workplace have been filed in various hospitals. Employers need to attend to these cases in a sensitive manner.

With the enactment of the Sexual Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) POSH Act, 2013 it is important for employers to be equipped and deal with it sensitively. As per law the workplace will be conducive to work productively and to their potential.

After CMAI’s webinar on the Act, several questions were raised pertaining to the employers’ responsibility.

Coverage of the Act

The Act defines workplace which includes healthcare institutions and NGOs/Trusts apart from other institutions. The term “employer” is given in very broad terms such as:

• Government – Head of the department
• Person responsible for the management, supervision and control of the workplace.
• Person discharging contractual obligations with respect to his or her employees.
• Dwelling place or house, a person or a household who employs or benefits from the employment of domestic worker.

The Act has a very broad definition of an employee. An Employee is a person who

• Works on a regular, temporary, ad hoc or daily basis
• Employed directly or through an agent, including a contractor, with or, without the knowledge of the principal employer
• Whether for remuneration or not, or working on a voluntary basis or otherwise
• Whether the terms of employment are express or implied and
• Includes a co worker, a contract worker, probationer, trainee, apprentice or called by any other such name.

Role of the Employer

The employer has statutory responsibilities under the law, violations of which could lead to a fine, or the rescinding of registration, if found guilty of violating the law. The role of the employer is as follows

• Pass and display an order appointing an Internal Committee (IC) in notice boards of the institution and departments.
• Organize orientation programmes for the members of the IC
• Provide necessary facilities to the IC like space for meetings, cupboard for files, secretarial assistance, etc.
• Assist in securing the attendance of respondent and witness before the IC
  • Do not try to reconcile the matter between the parties
  • Keep confidentiality of the case as it is a party to the case
  • Transfer/suspend/grant leave to employees as per the recommendation of the IC.
• Act on the findings and recommendations of the IC within 60 days of the receipt of the recommendations.
• Report of the IC to be mentioned in the Annual Report
• Develop policies against sexual harassment, among other obligations

In Telangana and Mumbai, it is mandatory for institutions to upload the details of their ICs on the websites.

Conclusion

It is imperative that the Act is implemented in all institutions. Providing a safe space for women at the workplace is a constitutional right and needs to be upheld.

Ms. Anuvinda Varkey
Executive Director
Christian Coalition for Health
Apply Due Diligence while Conducting CEB Courses

Dr Priya John, General Secretary Designate spoke about the role of CMAI as a training and certifying institution and reminded all CEB convenors to apply due diligence while managing CEB courses.

The committee deliberated on the recognition of Allied Health Sciences courses by the Government or university bodies.

The Central Education Board of CMAI met on 29th June 2019 at Stem Cell Center, CMC Bagayam.

CMAI CEB has 16 different committees which run 28 different diploma courses. Dr Shaloo Ipe, CEB Chairperson presided over the meeting in the presence of CMAI General Secretary designate Dr Priya John and 22 members. The convenors presented their reports. Dr Stanley Macaden briefly presented the ‘National Fellowship in Palliative Medicine Programme’.

Mr Lyric Abraham, Secretary, AHP Section stressed the need for centralizing CEB records with a common software for 16 committees to streamline CEB activities.

During the meeting, CEB has taken the following resolutions

- A candidate can have maximum of three attempts/paper only and a two-year course should be completed in four years
- The National Fellowship in Palliative Medicine (NFPM) and National Fellowship in Palliative Nursing (NFPN) are programmes under CEB, while the management is under Community Health Department of CMAI.
  - The Mr Samuel Karunakara Award for DMLT top scorer each year will be based on the MoU.
  - In continuation to the CEB digitization process a decision was taken to install a centralized software to streamline documentation, admission and certificate generation of all 28 courses under 16 committees. This will be done after studying the financial feasibility.

EMH, Tilda Urgently Needs ‘Director’ and ‘Anaesthetist’

The ‘Evangelical Mission Hospital, Tilda’, a secondary care hospital in Chhattisgarh urgently needs ‘Director’ preferably a General Surgeon with administrative Experience or MD/MS in any clinical stream. Also needs, an ‘Anaesthetist’ preferably a Dip or MD in Anaesthesiology. Salary negotiable as per qualification and experience.

Kindly contact:
Dr. Minal Nanda - Secretary ERBHS
Email: erbhstilda@yahoo.in or chbodisa@gmail.com
Mob.: 9437066950 ; 9937567950
Digitization of CEB Records Completed

The digitization of CEB records in the past seven years has been completed. The software attached to the catalogue was created by Big Data Imaging Services, Chennai, who also scanned the records from all training institutions under CEB. Ms Nimma Shanthini entered almost 28,000 data into the database software and is now easily retrievable if we query a name of the student, or an institution or a course name under CEB.

The next phase of streamlining of CEB records will be to create a common platform for entering all data under CEB courses so that there is no need for physical records to be kept at various centres. It will all be managed by the central repository of CMAI.

Mr Lyric Abraham supervised the digitization process and was completed in record time.  

Laparoscopic Surgery Inaugurated at CSI Campbell, Kadappa

CSI Campbell Hospital conducted the first laparoscopic surgery on July 15. This is a milestone in the history of this hospital. The hospital now has specialists in gynaecology, ENT and other specialties.

CSI Campbell Hospital, in Jammalamadugu was founded in 1896 by London Missionaries. The hospital has 400 beds with a college of nursing. The former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Dr Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy had worked as medical superintendent in this hospital. The hospital which is now having different super specialty departments, is currently steered under the leadership of Dr Augustine Raj.

Jammalamagudu in Kadappa Dist of Andhra Pradesh is also known for its banana plantations. Kadappa has 25,000 acres of banana farming which is done through tissue culture. The fruit is exported to Arab countries.

Jammalamadugu has less than a lakh population and the literacy is very high (84%).
Review: A Year After

In 2018, CMAI made a major strategic initiative to deploy 11 young and dynamic executives as Regional Facilitators (RFs) in different regions of CMAI. It was based on CMAI’s commitment to facilitate regional activities and to link HQ with its state counterparts. During the General Body meeting on July 5th, Mr J. Kilong (alias Mangcha), a representative of the RFs said that they have visited 182 of the 272 active member institutions.

Dr Sunita Abraham, head of Community Health Department who supervises the RFs activities, conducted two review meetings in the last one year.

Their work include visiting churches under the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI). The RFs initiated monthly prayer meetings in a few hospitals. This year many churches have observed “Healing Ministry Week” for the first time. The churches now show interest in participating in CMAI activities.

RFs suggest that more efforts have to be initiated to make CMAI known to a majority of churches. The regional committees are proactive in supporting the RF initiatives. In many churches and member institutions, the RFs have identified ‘prayer champions’ and ‘institutional facilitators’. As per the RF reports, many hospitals have a dearth of specialists who are willing to serve the rural regions. The RFs also focus on youth involvement in CMAI activities. They conduct student interactions by visiting medical, nursing and theological colleges.

Many institutions have renewed their CMAI membership.

According to Mr Santhosh, RF Tamil Nadu, “Initially there was a lack of knowledge of medical terms and CMAI. Now we understand the vision of CMAI and its mission in the healing ministry.”

Report by Jacob C Varghese

Rural India Mission Hospital (Estd 1970)
Tumkur (Near Bangalore), Karnataka.

Wants a Committed doctor to lead healthcare clinic and activities. Minimum qualification - MBBS / Accommodation available.

Please email CV to direct.ciit@gmail.com
Call Mobile: +91-88000 20500 for details.