

Editorial

It is with a sense of pride and privilege that I write this editorial for the inaugural issue of the Journal of the College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka. It is of significance that the publication of the first issue coincides with the year of inauguration of the College.

The College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka is the professional organization of specialists in the discipline of Community Medicine. Professionals practicing in this discipline, have made a substantial contribution to the improvement of the health status and the wellbeing of the people of our country over the past several decades. The leading article in this issue of the journal substantiates this statement. Professionals in Community Medicine have been sensitive to and have responded to the demands of an ever changing health scenario.

The first professional association in this branch of medicine was the Society of Medical Officers of Health, Ceylon, established in the late 1920s. The official journal titled 'Transactions of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, Ceylon' was first published in 1932.

Subsequently, in keeping with the need to broaden the scope of the Society, the Association of Social and Preventive Medicine was established in the late 1960s. This Association was later renamed the Sri Lanka Association of Community Medicine in the early 1970s and later converted to the College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka, in November 1995.

The publication of a first issue, especially an inaugural one has not been an easy task. A much more difficult task lies ahead to maintain regularity and continuity of publication. This task is a collective responsibility that rests on the shoulders of all members of the College rather than on its Council or its Editor. I am convinced that the College will be able to rise to this challenge with enthusiasm and initiative.

I earnestly request the members of the College to enrich this journal with their contributions, in the years ahead.

Dr. Rohini De Alwis Seneviratne

Editor
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