

## **Message From The President**

1 January, 2006

*Dear Colleagues,*

*It is my proud privilege to offer my wishes to the second volume of the Clinical Guidelines for Psychiatric Practice in India Published by the Indian Psychiatric Society.*

*I am proud to say that the two volumes of the clinical guidelines for Psychiatric Practice in India have been published during my tenure as President (2005-2006). My hearty congratulations to Dr. Shiv Gautam and Dr. Ajit Avasthi who have made this venture possible. I also express my sincere thanks to all the experts and other colleagues for their contribution in this task.*

*The disorders covered in this volume like sexual disorder, and substance use disorders will be very much useful to the practicing Psychiatrists in India.*

*It is not possible to Practice Psychiatry in India based only on "evidence" but rather mostly based on peer consensus coming out of their long experiences. Despite the rich history, this concept of evidence based medicine are considered new and are poorly understood, and are sometimes controversial in the field of Mental Health. Hence I feel that this volume aims in providing guidelines and recommendation not only based on "evidence" based practice in Mental Health Care, but also incorporating the experts opinion, experiences, and the data available in India.*

*I am tremendously indebted to the outstanding work done by Dr. Shiv Gautam and Dr. Ajit Avasthi. I wish and hope that this book will be of valuable guidance and reference to the thousands of practicing Psychiatrists in India.*

**Dr. S. Nambi**

President

Indian Psychiatric Society