

Press Note for 40th IPCA Convention

'FUTURE IN INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT' was the theme of the 'INDIA PEST 2007', the 40th Annual convention of the Indian Pest Control Association (IPCA) held from 16th - 18th August 2007 at the Holiday Inn, Goa.

At this 3 day Convention, Professionals & Practitioners from the Pest Management Industry including suppliers, manufacturers & experts of chemicals and equipment from all over India converged at Goa to discuss and debate the various issues & challenges facing the industry. The Convention was inaugurated by H.E., Shri S.C. Jamir, Governor of Goa, at a glittering ceremony on the 16th of August 2007. This being the Ruby Jubilee Year Celebrations, all Past Presidents and Founder Members were honoured and recognized for their vision and contribution and especially felicitated through a momento from the hands of H.E. the Governor.

Eminent international professionals such as Mr. Naresh Duggal, a Board Certified Entomologist & Certified QC Sanitarian, San Jose, California and Mr. Zia Siddiqi, Director, Quality Assurance, ORKIN Commercial Services - USA, Mike Kelly - Acheta Partnership UK, Jason Nash, Business Development Manager, India-South East & North Asia, Bayer Environmental Science, Jayant Dandawate, Vice President (Services), Pest Control (India) Pvt. Ltd., among others, conducted training on various pest management subjects and presented their views on the challenges faced by professional pest managers. A concurrent exhibition was also held from 16-18th August 2007, wherein various manufacturers and suppliers from the industry showcased their products and equipment.

IPCA was founded in the year 1967 to represent the fledgling pest control industry. It is a non-profit trade association of professional companies primarily engaged in the control of various pests and comprises around active and allied members from all over the country. It conducts and organises continuing industry-wide technical training programmes that relate directly to the latest technologies and quality of consumer service.

It operates under the close guidance of the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine & Storage (PPQ&S), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. IPCA serves the professional, scientific, legislative and legal needs of its members leading to a positive influence on environment friendly measures in protecting Food, Health and Property of the public and is recognized by the peer associations abroad, the scientific community and the public as the forum to exchange the knowledge in related disciplines.

The prevalence of diseases such as malaria, dengue and leptospirosis is on the increase. The control of pests causing these diseases, such as mosquitoes and rats, is commonly assumed to be an impossible task. State government efforts, though laudable, may not prove adequate due to constraints of finance, labour and logistics. In response to this situation, IPCA, with the assistance of its members, intends to reach out to NGOs and municipal authorities and conduct coordinated campaigns in various cities nationwide, to prove that control measures for such pests can be done effectively and economically. This would also enhance awareness amongst all about such manageable health issues.

IPCA is ably led in 2007-08 by Mr. Ravi Vyas, an experienced industry professional who has served as a Managing Committee Member & Hon. Secretary. He is assisted by a Managing Committee comprising a mix of experienced and dynamic pest management professionals from various companies from all corners of India.