effective communication between the Centre, the State and the field agencies for better implementation of Control programme and optimum utilization of available resources. This should be followed up by frequent dialogues, regional meetings, State level conferences and visits by the representatives of the Centre to the States. The Workshop further felt that at the meetings of Central and State Ministers of Health, adequate time should be allowed for review of work done in the field of leprosy.

18. In order to cope with the rapid expansion of the Leprosy Control Programme, Leprosy Cells at the Centre, State and District levels should be adequately staffed and equipped in order to ensure effective programme management. More specifically, Leprosy Officers at Centre and States should be given adequate administrative support so as to enable them to discharge their supervisory and field monitoring responsibilities more effectively.

19. The Central Health Ministry may issue firm guidelines about the minimum qualifications and experience of Leprosy Control Work needed for the post of State Leprosy Officer and Para-Medical Supervisor.

20. In order to attract and retain qualified medical personnel in leprosy control work Government should offer adequate incentives in terms of special remuneration and facilities, as well as priority in selection for Post-graduate courses to Medical Officers engaged in leprosy work.

21. The Workshop considered the need to bring about greater coordination among Voluntary Agencies functioning in the field of Leprosy Control Work. This is specially necessary in order to organize mutual aid and assistance through agencies best suited to provide specific types of help needed.

The Workshop, therefore, recommended that Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh national headquarters should take the lead in providing coordination and serve as the Central coordinating agency, without merging the independent identity of cooperating organizations.

HIND KUSHT NIVARAN SANGH
(INDIAN LEPROSY ASSOCIATION)

Annual Report for 1974

The Annual Report of the Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh for 1974 makes encouraging reading. The National Leprosy Programme is now geared to rapid development during the 5th Five Year Plan, and the project for its assessment under the Indian Council for Medical Research is now in operation. The Sangh is making its own very important contribution through encouraging coordination between government and voluntary agencies, supporting training courses for physiotherapy technicians, orientation courses for medical officers, health education, rehabilitation and publicity, especially through its own 37 publications. The Sangh took the lead in publicizing World Leprosy Day in India, in association with which 750,000 "leprosy seals" were sold. Leprosy in India is the official organ of the Sangh, and has continued to progress under the Editorship of Dr Dharmendra. The Professor K. C. Sahn Gold Medal for the promotion of research in leprosy has been instituted, with the first award presented to Dr D. K. Job of Christian Medical College and Hospital, Vellore. With over 3 million leprosy sufferers in India, the Sangh has a very important role to play, and we extend greetings and best wishes for its continued prosperity during 1976.