It is my pleasure to place before you the annual report of the Post Graduate Department of Plastic Surgery (PG-DPS) for the year 2005-2006. I shall like to put in the following heads:

(A) Academic:

The last year annual foundation day function of the department was held on 17th March, 2005. Hon’ble Justice S.K. Verma, Lokayukt, was the chief guest for the function and it was presided by Dr. M. Bhandari, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor of our University. Dr. H.S. Asopa, the reputed urologist and Past President of Association of Surgeons of India, delivered the 3rd Late Prof. R.N. Sharma Memorial Oration on Evaluation of Hypospadias surgery. Immediately following the inauguration and lecture, an operative workshop on Genital Reconstruction was organized.

Dr. D. K. Gupta, Prof. & Head, Department of Pediatric Surgery, AIIMS, New Delhi, Dr. B. Mody, Mumbai, were the faculty for the workshop. A large number of delegates from North India attended the workshop.

Another workshop on Non-surgical Facial Rejuvenation was organized by the department on 8th & 9th 2005. Dr. S.S. Sethi, Delhi, Dr. A.K. Gupta, Mumbai, Dr. A.K. Malik, dermatologist from New Delhi, Dr. R.K. Sharma, Chandigarh, Dr. Sanjay Divedi were part of the guest faculty. Dr. Rakesh Kain, Dr. Anupam Saran, Dr. R. Agarwal, Dr. S.K. Bhatnagar, Dr. Rama Srivastava, Dr. Vijay Kumar, Dr. A.K. Singh and Mrs. Deekika Bhalla delivered lectures on a wide variety of topics related to increasing aesthetics of the body. A large number of delegates from length and breadth of the country–Shimla to Vishakapatnam, and Kota to...
Kolkata participated. All aspects of non-surgical/minimally invasive aesthetic surgery were discussed, and demonstrated. Dr. Ashok Sahai, Dr. S. Bhattacharya, Dr. S.C. Tiwari, Dr. D. Dalela, Dr. S.N. Kureel, Dr. J.D. Rawat, Dr. Vijay Kumar, Dr. S.K. Bhatnagar and Dr. A.K. Singh delivered lectures on different topics.

Dr. Subramani Aiyer from Kochi, Secretary, Foundation of Head and Neck Oncology gave a lecture on ‘Skull base surgery’ on 5th January, 2006. Dr. Atul Shah, from Vadodra, visited the department and delivered a talk on cartilage grafts in rhinoplasty on 6th January, 2006.

A presentation on Nerve Conduction Velocity and electro-myography was organised by department on 9th February, 2006. Dr. Atul Agarwal, Professor of Neurology, demonstrated the NCV machine and explained the procedure and interpretation of results.

We are regularly teaching under graduates, MBBS, BDS and MS students with morning lectures, clinics and demonstrations. We are running M.Ch. program for the last 40 years or so.

During the last year, Dr. A. Mandal, Dr. S. Chaware and Dr. Neeraj Agarwal successfully completed their M.Ch. training in their maiden attempt. The M.Ch. curriculum has been made 3 years from hence forth therefore, it will be a leap year this session. Dr. Ramesh Kohli, Dr. Priya Darshi Ranjan and Dr. M.N. Gupta joined the M.Ch. course as SR-I.

At this juncture, I would request the authorities to ensure that the teaching departments should have say in the selection of entrants to M.Ch./D.M. courses. Further more, there should be no cut off marks for admission (as done by the state government at present). We are not judging eligibility for admission, but are selecting the best candidates.

(B) Hospital Services:

Our OPD attendance chart is showing a progressive trend - thanks to the increasing popularity of the specialty and also increasing faith of the populace in the department. The department has the potential to tap more higher strata people, if the grim environment of our OPD can be improved.
A total of 11,637 patients were seen in OPD, besides numerous ones who come to the department and after OPD hours on non OPD days. 524 Patients were operated under GA and 750 under LA in electric surgery. 189 patients were operated in emergency (49 GA and 140 LA). Here, the number of patients under GA does not actually reflect the number of hours put in since most of the plastic surgery patients take lot of time and meticulousness. Some procedures take even 6-10 hours.

(C) Social/Charity Work:

The department and its members have been active in charity as well. A number of camps have been organised by the department during the last year.

Dr. A.K. Singh conducted a free camp for plastic surgery patients on 15th May, 2005 in Barabanki. The department is one of the pioneer centres for craniofacial surgery, and hence has a pivotal role in correction of craniofacial deformities. Clefts of the face form a big chunk. Lots of well baby shows are organised in the city for normal children. It occurred to me that why not have a well baby show for these deformity struck children. With this in mind we organised a well baby show for children with un-operated cleft lips and palates on 19th May, 2005. A total number of 140 patients with their parents, happily participated in the show. It was like a mela. They were judged by faculty members from various departments of the college, and prizes were given in various categories. Taking this opportunity, the health check up of these children was also done. The contribution of department of Pediatrics, Psychiatry, ENT, Orthodontics, Prosthodostics was noteworthy. All faculty, residents, staff nurses and employees, enthusiastically participated.

The unoperated patients were identified and they were repaired (operated) over the next three days (20th to 21st May, 2005), with the cooperation of the Anesthesia department.

Dr. A.K. Singh, conducted a health checkup camp in Leh during the summer vacation. He also operated on 5 patients requiring plastic
surgery at 153 General Hospital Leh, helping the Indian army. Otherwise, they were to be referred to Chandigarh for reconstructive surgery.

Free cleft lip and palate camp was held on 13th and 14th July, 2005. Another camp for cleft children was organised in the department on 7th and 8th January, 2006. A total number of 65 patients were operated. Dr. G.P. Singh, Professor of Anesthesia, rendered invaluable help in organization and conduct of these camps. A health mela was organised from 2 to 5 Feb. 2006 at Balrampur garden, Lucknow. The department participated and gave free medical advice to the public. Dr. S.K. Bhatnagar visited Port Blair in Oct. 95 and during his sojourn operated on patients.

(D) **Achievements of Members:**

Dr. S.K. Bhatnagar continues to be member of the governing council of ASI from U.P. He was awarded the Ethicon visiting professorship in microsurgery. He was bestowed with the best teacher award of U.P. Chapter of ASI, and is currently the President of U.P. Chapter of Association of Plastic Surgeons of India.

Dr. A.K. Singh attended the Asia Pacific conference of Federation of International Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Society at Mumbai, the Cleft 2005 International Conference at Durban, South Africa and a host of national conferences. He delivered invited lectures at various national conferences and also at non-medical conclaves. He chaired a number of sessions, and was invited to selection committee for faculty positions, at many colleges. He was awarded the fellowship of Lucknow College of Surgeons. He was visiting professor to University of Nairobi, where he gave lectures and operated on patients. He is currently the secretary of APSI. He has been also nominated as one of the four (only one from this continent) member core group of medial advisory body of world craniofacial foundation.

Dr. R. Agarwal, received intramural funds for pursing skin culture. He participated in the Peet prize session of APSICON-2005. He was invited to deliver a talk during the Burn conference at Haldwani.
Dr. Vijay Kumar joined the department as Asst. Professor on 17th May, 2005. He was awarded the Ethicon travelling fellowship in Microsurgery. He participated in all activities of the department.

Dr. Rakesh Kain, joined the department on 16th July, 2005, and was with us till 8th January, 2006. He later joined Safdarjung Hospital, due to better pay scales and for proximity to his immediate relatives. During his brief stint, he earned praise from all his peers and worked hard in the department.

I am happy to inform a number of residents also received awards and brought laurels to the department. Dr. Aditya Ray, an ex-alumni was awarded Kilner essay award during APSICON-2005 for his work done earlier in the department on ‘wound healing by negative suction’. Dr. Suresh Chaware, who passed out last year was awarded the competitive best paper award during APSICON-2005, for his thesis work on microsurgical anastomosis during his stay.

The present residents, Dr. Vinay K. Shankhdhar bagged the competitive Kamath poster award for ‘pressure clips in ear keloids’, during APSICON-2005. He has been also awarded Ethicon training fellowship. Dr. Brijesh Mishra, Dr. Durga Karki and Dr. Divya Narayan Upadhayay have been awarded the IX IPRS fellowship, sponsorship for APSICON-2005 and Myovatec fellowship respectively. I feel pride, in telling you that out of the four competitive prizes of APSI, two were bagged by the department and marginally missed out in another.

(E) Change of Gaurd:

I am grateful to the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor who fulfilled our long standing demand for shortage of faculty and two new assistant professors could be appointed, Dr. Vijay Kumar and Dr. Rakesh K. Kain. It is another aspect that Dr. Kain has left and the post has again fallen vacant.

Two faculty positions are lying vacant and requires benevolence of the authorities, so that the department can perform better.

A post of speech therapist and also of physiotherapist is still lying vacant are Superintendent advertised it, but unfortunately, we could not get applicants. I think a wider circulation of advertisement is required.
Sister incharge of plastic surgery ward Smt. Indra Kali was posted to nursing college and sister S.N. Khan join in her place.

(F) Grants/Facilities:

The government looks upon plastic surgery as unnecessary and often synonymous with cosmetic surgery. I have failed to impress the importance of this specialty even to my senior brethren in the administration. We are not taken into confidence in matters concerning trauma (though good 40% of our work is trauma related). We still have not been able to impress the administration for an operation theatre of its own in trauma centre (though 2 theaters are lying unused). Patients requiring flap cover, nerve repair, vessels repair, jaw injuries, hand injuries and even at times limb re-plantations are relegated down in priority, and our residents have to wait endlessly for their turn.

I am grateful to the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor for giving a contingency of Rs. 5000/- in this fiscal year, but I request him for more. To be able to get money from our hard earned augmentation and users fund we have to go with a begging bowl. Hence, I have decided suffix ‘Sudama’ after my surname as I am perpetually begging for funds, grants and facilities. All for the department’s sake. We have been promised a grant of 1.75 crore for instruments regarding burns unit. It is a major welcome, but we need the space, basic infrastructure and posts too.

(G) Research Activities:

A total number of 9 research papers have been published by the department. During this period 22 invited presentations, and proferred papers have been delivered at National and International conferences.

(H) Observer ship:

Dr. Rajeev Lochan, plastic surgeon, from provincial medical health services, was with us an observer for 3 months. A number of enquiries have come forth for observer ship from out this country. Let’s see how many mature.

(I) Our Requirements:
Besides this oft repeated request for grants regarding safety related equipments.

Un-interrupted power supply to the department – we still do not have a generator backup.

Lift – I am optimistic that in next few months, we may have a lift and spare you (and the patients) the trouble of climbing two floors. Our Vice Chancellor has kindly sanctioned an old lift coming out of a building to be installed here.

Filling up vacant posts – faculty and paramedical.

The OT requires rejuvenation – to be safer and modern. I would request our Hon’be Vice Chancellor for grant of Rs. 5 lacs for this purpose. Our Central O₂, N₂O and suction are also not functioning.

Infrastructure – Space and manpower for the proposed burn unit.

(J) Thanks:

Having said all that I have, I must admit that whatever the department has been able to achieve, has been due to the encouragement and moral support of the college administration. I would say we can do still better, given further support.

My faculty, residents, class III and IV employees have been working hard to make this department a better place for the patients coming here for treatment. From this year we are introducing a patient response form – to be filled by each patient at the time of discharge.

The press has always been encouraging and responsive, and I thank them for their patronage.

I also thank the faculty and employees of the college for saying kind words about the department, which encourage us to work with more fervour and sincerity.