Review of Literature
11 REVIEW OF LITERATURE

a) Intramural aerobiological studies in India and abroad

1) Residential environment

The earliest reported study was conducted in 1925 by Storm Van Leewan in the home of a patient who experienced a recurrence of allergenic symptoms after returning home from a symptom free visit in the Alps. A careful mycological search of her home revealed that her Kapok mattress supported a pure culture of *Aspergillus fumigatus*. Removal of mattress produced a decline in the patient's symptoms.

Similar findings by Kramer in 1932 & 1940, prompted him to conclude that fungi growing in homes were prime factors causing asthmatic symptoms in low lying humid regions. In the United States, Jones & Gerson found a correlation between fungi in patients' homes & skin reactivity to extracts of the same fungal genera found in the homes.


2) Air-Conditioned Environment


In India no such studies have been reported so far.

3) Library

The microbial content of air inside library responsible for biodeterioration and respiratory disorders was studied by Kathapalia (1960), Gallow & Fustal (1963), Aas (1972), Tilak & Vishwe (1975), Burge et al. (1978), Tilak et al. (1981), Vittal & Glory (1985), Verma & Khare (1987),

4) Hospital

The airspora of hospital wards was investigated and reported by the following workers.


b) Intramural aerobiological studies in Bangalore.

In Bangalore, Agashe and Geetha (1988) started Intramural aerobiological studies at Nasal and Nasobronchial allergy patient's residences.

Ranganath and Channabasavanna (1988 a,b) studied the seasonal incidence of house dust mites.

Agashe and philip (1992) correlated the summer and monsoon seasons airspora with patient's allergy symptom score. They observed a definite variation in indoor airspora from summer to monsoon and an aggravation of allergy symptoms of the patients in monsoon. Agashe et al (1992)
studied the intramural environment at different dwelling and work places.


A critical review of literature on intramural aerobiological studies clearly indicates the necessity of further exhaustive work.