

30th Annual Conference

Indian Society for Medical Statistics

Minutes of the General Body Meeting
Dumra Auditorium, DMCH, Ludhiana
October 7, 2012, 1800 hrs

The President welcomed the members. The following items on the agenda were then taken up for discussion with decisions taken on them as mentioned.

1. Report of the President

The President mentioned that most of the regular activities like deliberations of various committees like Nominations, Awards (including the new committee for Smt. Ramrati Lalima Sahai Award) and FSMS committees were completed in time for this Conference.

2. Report of the General Secretary

The report was presented. The report was approved with the following comments and suggestions of the Executive Council reiterated:

- (a) Reports be circulated beforehand by e-mail to all members, at least to EC members or be available when the conference begins;
- (b) Action taken and performance reports be included in the report;
- (c) Membership numbers be broken down by medical and statistical backgrounds of members;
- (d) A membership enrollment desk be set up at conferences;
- (e) Attempts be made to initiate joint memberships with International Epidemiological Association and the International Biometric Society;
- (f) Members from various regions be nominated for canvassing new memberships from their regions.

3. Report of the Treasurer up to 31 March 2012

The Treasurer presented his report with the Auditors' report. The report was approved with the following comments and suggestions of the Executive Council reiterated:

- (a) for each of the awards fund, show accrued interest and expenses incurred during the year;
- (b) explore other avenues for earning (like from conference organizers).

4. Report of Editor

The Editor's report was presented. The report was approved with the following comments and suggestions of the Executive Council reiterated:

- (a) make attempts to improve and add contents to the Bulletin;
- (b) make attempts to start a journal of the Society.

Some members expressed the view that the Society should start a journal. Dr C.P. Mishra (BHU, Varanasi) was entrusted with the task of working out details with the help of other members with similar views on the subject, like Professor V.K. Srivastava (VKS had expressed such views in the EC Meeting), prepare a detailed proposal and submit it for discussion.

5. Recommendations of the FSMS Award Committee for the year 2012

The Executive Council on the basis of recommendations by the FSMS Committee had approved the award of the Fellowship of the Indian Society for Medical Statistics (FSMS) to Dr N.K.Tyagi, Belgaum and Dr Abha Rani Aggarwal, New Delhi. The General Body also expressed its approval of the same.

6. Recommendations of the Nominating Committee

The Executive Council on the basis of recommendations by the Nominating Committee (consisting of Dr V.G.Kaliaperumal, Dr K.R.Sundaram, and Dr B.L.Verma) had approved the following nominations for the mentioned vacancies. The General Body also expressed its approval of the same.

President-Elect: Dr. Abhaya Indrayan, Delhi 2013-14

EC Memberships for three years (2013-2015):

Dr R.M.Pandey, New Delhi

Dr. N. K. Tyagi , Belgaum

Dr. Dilip Chandra Nath, Guwahati

Editorship: Prof. Ajit Sahai, Pondicherry: 2013-17

7. Recommendations of the Awards Committee

The Executive Council on the basis of recommendations by the Awards Committee (consisting of Professor P.P.Talwar - Chairman, Professor C.M.Pandey, Professor R.M.Pandey, Dr. P.Venkatesan, Professor K.Thennarasu) had approved the following nominations for the mentioned awards. The General Body also expressed its approval of the same.

Professor S.K.Bhattacharya Oration Award - **2012: Professor B.L.Verma**

Professor B.G.Prasad Award: NONE

Smt. Suraj Kali Jain Award: NONE

Professor P.V.Sukhatme Award: NONE

Indrayan Travel Grant: NONE

Professor R N Srivastava Award :

A special Session for Prof R N Srivastava Award took place during the Conference on the day next to the GB Meeting (i.e., on 8 October). The only paper presented for the Award, that by Mr Basavarajaiah, was not found suitable for the Award by a Committee of 3 judges - consisting of Prof T.Krishnan, Professor P.P.Talwar, and Professor Nagdeo (of IIPS). Hence, Prof R N Srivastava Award was not recommended to anyone in 2012.

8. Recommendations of Smt. Ramrati Lalima Sahai Award 2012

The Executive Council on the basis of recommendations by the Committee

(same as the FSMS Committee) had approved the name of Professor P.P.Talwar for the Smt. Ramrati Lalima Sahai Award for the year 2012. The General Body also expressed its approval of the same.

9. Proposal for Venue of the 31st Annual Conference of ISMS in 2013

The only proposal from the Christian Medical College, Vellore (Tamil Nadu), which was approved by the EC, was accepted by the GB.

10. Electronic Communication

The General Body endorsed the decision of the EC that all communications between members, office-bearers, and committee members be made electronically as far as possible and printing documents and postal and courier communications be avoided as far as possible. Rules regarding this may be changed wherever needed.

11. Indrayan Travel Grant

Since for the last two years, there have been no applications for this Grant, it was suggested that in such a situation, a committee of President, President-Elect, and Past-President make an offer of the grant to a suitable retired person, at its discretion. This was one of the suggestions made by the EC. This was approved by the GB.

12. Rakesh Shukla Travel Grant proposal

Professor Rakesh Shukla has donated Rs 1,00,000/- for instituting a travel grant. The GB reiterated the EC's decision that Professor Shukla be asked to submit a detailed proposal to be considered in the next meeting of the Society.

13. Preparation of List of Awardees and Office-bearers since Inception

Although this suggestion was made in the last EC and GB meetings, there has been no progress in this work. It was suggested like in the EC that the General Secretary initiates this work by preparing a proforma, listing all awards (with years), all office-bearers' positions (with years), fill it as far as possible, and send it across to Dr B.L.Verma, Dr P. Venkatesan, Dr Ajit Sahai and others, requesting them to fill the gaps as far as they could, thereby making an attempt to prepare a complete list.

14. ISMS Website and Membership Directory

It was reiterated that (a) the ISMS website is not functioning; and (b) the membership directory is incomplete and needs updation. Professor L. Jeyaseelan of the Christian Medical College, Vellore (Tamil Nadu), offered to host the website in their College and give programming support. However, maintenance work/updation has to be done by the Secretariat. It was also emphasized that for the construction of a new website, full background text material have to be prepared afresh. For this, the Secretariat may take the help of some knowledgeable members. Further, members wanted to see the new website functional in the coming 2-4 months and desired the Secretariat to take steps, on priority, for this purpose.

The General Body approved the above and welcomed the kind gesture of CMC, Vellore.

15. Rules and Procedures for Smt. Ramrati Lalima Sahai Award

Many members in EC had opined that

(a) the 10-member FSMS committee was not a suitable committee for this purpose; the President was asked to appoint a separate 5-member committee for this Award for future years.

(b) CV's of nominees need not be asked for this purpose; it is enough to get a brief statement from the proposers, of the nominees' contribution to the Society and his/her scientific contributions; his/her consent may also be sought with the proposal.

The General Body reiterated EC's approval of these suggestions.

The President later formed a 5-member committee (consisting of: Dr. T. Krishnan (Chairman), Dr V.K.Srivastava, Dr A.Indrayan, Dr D.K.Subbakrishna, Dr G.D.Shukla) for evaluation of entries of Smt Ramrati Lalima Sahai Award for future years.

16. Smt. Ramrati Lalima Sahai Award for the years 2008,2009, 2010 and 2011

The EC had recommended that for the past four years (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011), the President may form a 5-member committee, and make recommendations for the awards to the General Body meeting, to be held on Sunday, 07 October 2012. In accordance with this recommendation, the President appointed a committee (consisting of Dr T.Krishnan (Chairman), Professor P. P.Talwar, Dr D.K. Subbakrishna, Dr K. R.Sundaram, Dr R.M.Pandey) which recommended the following names for the awards for the above four years:

2008: Professor P.S.S. Sundar Rao; 2009: Dr S.Radhakrishna; 2010: Professor B.L.Verma; 2011: Dr G.D.Shukla

These suggestions were approved by the General Body.

17. Proposal for KR Sundaram Award

The daughters of Professor K.R.Sundaram have proposed an award in the name of Professor Sundaram. The EC recommended that a committee consisting of Professor T.Krishnan, Professor D.K.Subbakrishna, and Dr Anil Mathew examine this proposal, make suitable modifications, if needed, on the basis of discussions in the EC and GB, and submit it to the next EC meeting for consideration.

18. Reports of Education, Research, Training, Silver Jubilee, and Silver Jubilee Bulletin Committees

The President was asked to upload these reports on the Society website to circulate these reports widely, collect views on the recommendations made and get back to the EC and GB with points for action.

19. Vote of Thanks to Outgoing Office-bearers

The GB expressed its appreciation of the work done by the following outgoing office-bearers and thanked them for their contributions to the Society.

T.Krishnan, President

Arvind Pandey, Past-President

N.Sreekumaran Nair, Editor

Anil Mathew, EC Member
K.Thennarasu, EC Member
R.Ravanan, EC Member

R.J.Yadav
General Secretary

23 October 2012

T.Krishnan
President