



Indian Society for Medical Statistics

Minutes of the General Body Meeting - 2023

The General Body meeting was held at Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala on November 2, 2023 at 5:30 PM with the following agenda.

The General Body (GB) meeting agenda – 2023:

1. Welcome by President
2. Silent prayer in respect of sad demise of Prof. C. R. Rao & Prof. C.M Pandey
3. Approval of minutes of the 2022 GC & GB meetings
4. Report of General Secretary
5. Report of Treasurer
6. Report of Bulletin Editor
7. Report of Web coordinator
8. Award Committee report
9. Nomination committee report
10. Search committee report
11. FSMS committee report
12. Venue for the ISMSCON-2024
13. Renewal of Registration of the society
14. Proposal from the National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS)
15. Thanking the retiring GC members
16. Any other point with the permission of the chair
17. Vote of thanks by General Secretary

The GB meeting started with a condolence silent prayer in respect of the demised members, Prof. C.R Rao and Prof. C.M Pandey. Then, President-ISMS,

Prof. S.N. Dwivedi welcomed all members who were attending the meeting. Later, the President requested General Secretary of the society to take up agenda item one by one.

Members attending the GB unanimously approved minutes of the 2022 GC and GB meetings.

General Secretary presented report of the activities held during 2023 which is summarised below.

Prof. N. Sreekumaran Nair, the former General Secretary, took initiative to transfer the ISMS secretariat to NIMHANS, Bengaluru and handed over society-related documents, including the available ISMS registration certificate, and provided access to the ISMS Google group. The Secretariat began functioning from last week of February 2023. The society's all finance-related documents were handed over to Dr. C. Ponnuraja, Treasurer by the General Secretary (former Treasurer), Dr. Binukumar, in March 2023.

ISMS secretariat has made time-to-time communications about various announcements, notifications of the society, and various news items like Minutes of the meeting, notifications of ISMS bulletin, conferences, workshops, and vacancies, etc., which were relevant for the members through the google group.

The secretariat closely worked with the Web coordinator Dr. Prasanna Samuel and contributed to the activities of the Web sub-committee to update the ISMS website. The committee had many meetings during the year and is on the job of modernizing and updating the website. Though they sent many requests to members regarding updating their communication addresses and other contact details, the received responses were not encouraging.

Contents on many web pages of our website have been updated. Past Conference details have been updated as the uploaded information had some significant errors. This has been done after circulating it to the society's past Presidents

and General Secretaries. Further, Minutes of GC and GB, audit reports, recent ISMS Bulletin, and copies of general communication for members, membership list, etc., have been uploaded.

The Secretariat has initiated the creation of databases for society's activities and awards. The draft version of office bearers of the ISMS/ FSMS awardees list has been updated and uploaded to the website. In addition, the Secretariat looks forward to create a database for various other awards constituted by the society.

An invitation was sent to all awardees to receive the prestigious awards of the ISMS during the inaugural session of the ISMSCON-2023. All awardees have been kind enough to be present during inauguration and accept the respective awards, except a few due to unavoidable or health circumstances. As a special case, Secretariat took due approval by the GC members through email communications, and decided to hand over Life Time Achievement award to Prof. K.R. Sundaram, in Kottayam this year itself, but unfortunately Prof. Sundaram could not come due to his poor health.

In 2023, 35 new life members have been enrolled. Membership certificates to all new members have been sent after the treasurer confirms membership fee payment and scrutinizing the applications. The GC has duly approved their membership.

The Secretariat has updated the membership list, and all attempts have been made to update e-mail IDs in the Google group. Currently, we have nearly 800 e-mail IDs in Google Group and nearly 1100 life members of the society. Among them, 38 members are living outside of India. However, many of our senior members' e-mail IDs require updation in the existing directory.

Secretariat closely worked with conference secretariat of ISMSCON-2023 in organizing the annual conference in terms of finalising scientific programmes, organisation of Inaugural function and other meetings and ISMS activities during the conference.

General Secretary's report concluded with a thanking message to all members, all ISMS committees: Chairs and its members - High power committee, Nominations committee, Search committee, award committee, conference organizing secretariat, Web subcommittee, etc. for their support and co-operation. GB approved the General Secretary's report.

After report of general secretary, Treasurer's report prepared by Dr. C. Ponnuraja along with the audited statements for the FY 2022-'23 was circulated among the members. GB approved the Treasurer's report.

Due to family emergency, the bulletin editor, Dr.Binu V.S, could not attend the meeting. On his behalf, General Secretary presented the report submitted to the Secretariat. The GB discussed various points raised by the Bulletin Editor and noted the need of strengthening contents for the bulletin by all the members of the society. GB approved the report.

The Web coordinator, Dr. Prasanna Samuel, also could not attend the meeting due to personal reasons. General Secretary presented the report submitted by Dr Prasanna to GB, and GB emphasized the need of attendance of web coordinator in the meeting to facilitate discussion regarding further improvements. GB approved the report of the Web Coordinator.

Chairs of Various committees presented their recommendations on awards and Nominations.

Award committee Chair Prof. R.M. Pandey could not attend the meeting. However, Prof. Pandey communicated the following recommendations of the award committee to the secretariat and general secretary presented the recommendations to GB.

ISMS AWARDS FOR 2023	RECOMMENDED NAME
Prof. P.V. Sukhatme Award	Mr. S. Marimuthu
Prof. K.R. Sundaram Young Researcher Award	Mr. Sachit Ganapathy

Recommendations of the award committee were approved by the GB.

Nomination committee Chair, Prof. P. Venkatesan briefed about the election procedure and election results of December 2022. Further, he informed GC that there are two nominations received from ISMS members for the full term position of governing council members and the details are as follows.

Name	Institute
Dr. Kamal Kishore	PGIMER, Chandigarh
Dr. M. Rajeswari	JIPMER, Puducherry. Currently at AIIMS, Mangalagiri

GB further discussed this matter and approved the recommendation of the Nomination Committee.

Search committee Chair Prof. B. L. Verma presented the following recommendations.

Sl. no.	Name of the Award	Committee's Recommendation For Conferment of the Award	Nominee's Consent Received or Not	Year when the Award is to be presented*
1.	Lifetime Achievement Award	Dr. K. R Sundaram	Received	In the current year (2023) at Kottayam
2.	Professor S K Bhattacharya Oration	Dr. L. Jeyaseelan	Received	In the following year (2024)
3.	Smt. Ramrati Lalima Sahai Award	Dr. S. S Ganguly	Received	In the following Year (2024)
4.	Professor P. P. Talwar Lecture	Dr. Sanjay Zodpey, President – Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi.	Received	In the current year (2023) at Kottayam
5.	Professor A Indrayan Travel Grant	Dr. P. Venkatesan	Received	In the current year (2023) at Kottayam

The search committee also proposed to the GC that, the *Lifetime Achievement Award for the year 2023* to Prof. K R Sundaram may be presented to him in 2023 at Kottayam (Kerala) as a special case on the basis of his health ground. After a brief discussion, these recommendations were approved by the GB.

Chair of FSMS committee, Prof. S.N Dwivedi, President –ISMS, recommended FSMS award for the year 2023 to Dr. Kaushlendra Kumar Singh, Senior Professor, Department of Statistics, BHU, Varanasi. GB approved it.

General Secretary has informed that the Secretariat received two proposals for hosting the 42nd Annual Conference of the Indian Society for Medical Statistics (ISMSSCON-2024). Then, Prof. Brijesh P. Singh, Department of Statistics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, and Dr. Prabhaker Mishra, Department of Biostatistics and health Informatics, SGPGIMS, Lucknow were invited to explain the facilities and capacity to host the 2024 conference. Later, GB debated their proposals and approved BHU's proposal to host the ISMSSCON-2024.

Prof. S.N Dwivedi briefed to the GB, regarding his virtual meeting about the proposal from Dr S.K Sarin, President of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS), to jointly organize NAMS Orations and awards in the annual meetings of the related professional bodies including those in ISMS conference. In this regard, NAMS had to bear all related expenses regarding participation of their awardees. In addition, NAMS had proposed to pay Rupees one lac to the organiser of the respective ISMS annual conference. The GB discussed various aspects of organising such NAMS orations during the annual ISMS conference and decided to refrain from entertaining such proposals.


Other items with the permission of Chair:

- The GB approved recommendation of GC nominating Prof. L. Jeyaseelan, Immediate Past President of ISMS, in the FSMS committee to fill-up the vacancy due to sad demise of Prof. C.M Pandey.

- The GB approved the recommendations of GC to form a committee to look into the matter of Registration of the society related issues. GC has proposed Dr. C.B Tripathi, IHBAS, Delhi (as Chair) and Dr. Jeethendra Yadav, ICMR-NIMS, New Delhi (as Member), along with the general secretary and treasurer as Ex-officio members.
- The GB also approved the recommendations of GC regarding FSMS Fee. It was decided that all future nominations should accompany a cheques/DD worth Rs. 10,000/- and cheques of only elected members will be deposited to the ISMS bank account. The remaining cheques will be returned to respective nominee's address.
- The concern was raised in GC regarding the conduct of prestigious ISMS Orations/ Lectures in online mode was informed. The GB also approved the recommendations of GC that all society's Orations/ Lectures should be conducted in Offline mode.
- It was informed to the GB that GC has requested Prof. B.L Verma and other committee members to revisit the award/ constitution rules to amend the ISMS constitution in items like membership eligibility, application for awards eligibility, etc. GB approved it.

GB appreciated and thanked all retiring members from GC, Dr C.M Singh, AIIMS, Patna and Dr. S.B Singh, RIIMS, Ranchi for their service to ISMS.

Finally, the meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks by General Secretary.



Dr. B. Binukumar
General Secretary-ISMS