

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 26th ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS

Date: February 27, 2024 at 07.00 P.M.

Venue: Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Banasthali Vidyapith, Banasthali, Rajasthan

The Twenty Sixth Annual General Body Meeting of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications (SSCA) was held under the chairmanship of Prof. V.K. Gupta, President. It was attended by the following members and Special Invitees.

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| 1. V.K. Gupta (In Chair) | 13. Rajni Jain |
| 2. A. K. Nigam | 14. Kshetrimayum Anand Singh |
| 3. Sarla Pareek | 15. Khundom Kumarchand Singh |
| 4. Med Ram Verma | 16. Vishal Deo |
| 5. Sukanta Dash | 17. Gargi Tyagi |
| 6. Mahesh Kumar Panda | 18. Savita Pareek* |
| 7. Dipak Roy Choudhury | 19. Megha Sharma* |
| 8. Alope Lahiri | 20. ShubhamNiphadkar* |
| 9. Susheel Sarkar | 21. Manish Kumar Sharma |
| 10. David Hanagal | 22. Shalini Chandra |
| 11. Ramasubramanian V. | 23. Dr. Tapan Kumar Chakrabarty |
| 12. Ashish Das | (Special Invitee) |

* Contestants for M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award.

At the outset the Chairman Prof. V.K. Gupta welcomed the GB members. Then the agenda of the GB meeting was followed:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 25th Annual GB meeting held at University of Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir on 16th February 2023

The said proceedings were circulated among the members of the Society through e - mail. It was also hosted at the website of the Society. Since no comments were received, the same were confirmed.

2. Presentation of Secretary's Report

The Secretary, Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury presented the report of the activities of the society during the year 2023-2024. The presented report was quite elaborate and highlighted various activities of the SSCA and the new initiatives taken up.

The report was divided in several sections. Each section of the report has been presented below:

2.1. Release of the SSCA Journal, Statistics and Applications (S&A)

Volume 21, Nos. 1 (June 2023) and 2 (December 2023), respectively containing 19 papers, were hosted online at the website of the SSCA and were printed. The full length papers can be viewed and downloaded free of cost from the website of the SSCA at <https://ssca.org.in/journal.html>.

It is informed that the Editorial Board of the journal has been further strengthened with the inclusion of Dr. (Ms.) Durba Bhattacharya as its Executive Editor and Ms. Jyoti Gangwani as its Production Executive. Dr Bhattacharya is Head, Department of Statistics, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata and Ms. Gangwani is the Former Chief Technical Officer at ICAR- IASRI, New Delhi.

The Secretary also informed the GB that Vol. 22, No. 2 of S&A (to be hosted in December 2024 and published in January 2025) on “Life and Work of Prof. C.R. Rao (1920-2023): The Revolutionary of Statistical Sciences” will be devoted to the fond memories of Late Prof. C.R. Rao. There is a team of global celebrated scientists working as Guest Editors and the SSCA expects 40+ papers to be included in this issue.

2.2. Release of Special Proceedings of 25th annual conference held at the University of Jammu

Special Proceedings comprising of 15 selected papers of the 25th annual conference of the SSCA held at University of Jammu, Jammu during February 2024 were hosted (at <https://ssca.org.in/specialproceedings.html>) and printed, after the usual review process, in October 2023 with the International Standard Book Number (ISBN - No.978-81-950383-2-9).

2.3. M.N. Das Memorial Lecture

To perpetuate the memory of the Founder President Late Prof. M.N. Das, ‘M.N. Das Memorial Lecture’ is organized every year during the annual conference. The Eleventh lecture was delivered in 2023 during the 25th annual conference by the Eminent Professor Padam Singh, Former Member, National Statistical Commission and Additional Director General, ICMR.

During the ongoing 26th annual Conference, this lecture was delivered by Dr. Manisha Pal, Senior Professor and Head, Department of Statistics, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata.

2.4. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Awards 2023

During the year 2023, two candidates could qualify for the presentation of their research before a selected panel of five judges. Presentations were held during the last 25th annual conference. Selection of the winner was based on the review of their papers, merit of presentation and ability to answer the questions. Dr Saurav Guha, Scientist at the ICAR-IASRI was selected for M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist award - 2023.

2.5. A Session on Financial Statistics

During the 25th conference held in the year 2023, there was a session on Financial Statistics with four presentations made by Ajit Ratnakar Joshi, RBI; T.V. Ramanathan, SP Phule Pune University; Ankita Singh, MOSPI; and Ashish Das, IIT Mumbai.

2.6. Organization of Web-seminar

During the year 2023-24, SSCA organized a web-seminar on December 11, 2023 inviting Distinguished Research Professor Danny Pfefferman, University of Southampton, U.K and Professor (Emeritus), Department and Data Science, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, to deliver the talk. The session was chaired by Distinguished Research Professor J.N.K. Rao, Carleton, Ottawa, Canada.

2.7. Endowment Lectures

It was decided in the GBM, 2022 that there would be following three endowment lectures and one endowment award lecture in every annual conference of the SSCA starting from 2022. The V. K. Gupta Endowment Award will carry a cash prize of ₹31,000.00.

1. B.K. Kale Memorial Endowment Lecture
2. J.K. Ghosh Memorial Endowment Lecture
3. Bikas Kumar Sinha Endowment Lecture
4. V.K. Gupta Endowment Award for Achievements in Statistical Thinking and Practice Lecture.

These lectures were delivered during the 25th Annual Conference by the following speakers:

The second BK Kale Memorial Endowment lecture was delivered by Prof. K. Muralidharan, M.S. University, Vadodara.

The second Bikas K. Sinha Endowment lecture was delivered online by Prof. T.J. Rao, Retired Professor, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.

The second JK Ghosh Memorial Endowment lecture was delivered online by Dr. Durba Bhattacharya, Head, Department of Statistics, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata.

The second V.K. Gupta Endowment Award for Statistical Thinking and Practice lecture award lecture for the year 2023 was delivered by Prof. Bikas Kumar Sinha, Retired Professor, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.

For initiation of the above Endowment Lectures and Award, Endowment money was paid by the students / relatives / friends of the person, in whose name the Endowment Lecture/Award has been initiated. The SSCA expresses its gratefulness to each one of the donors.

2.8. Pre-Conference Seminar and Discussions (Online) (Related to last 25th Annual Conference)

As you are aware, a Pre-Conference Online Seminar with Discussions was held on February 11, 2023. The title of the seminar was “Sequential Multiple-Assignment Randomized Trials (SMARTs) for Dynamic Treatment Regimes (DTRs)”. It was organized by Prof. Bikas K. Sinha. The Chairperson of the seminar was Prof. Atanu Biswas, ISI, Kolkata and the speaker was Prof. Bibhas Chakraborty, National University of Singapore. Dr. Aditya Chakraborty was the discussant.

2.9. Invited Talk Session for Early-Career Researchers

With the aim of attracting young faculty and senior Ph.D. students to make presentations at the Contributory Paper Sessions of the annual conferences of the SSCA, the select group of EC during its meeting on January 11, 2022 approved a proposal that besides Contributory Paper Presentation Sessions' we may also have Early-Career Researcher Invited Talk Session for the Young Researchers below the age of 32 years. During the Silver Jubilee conference at Jammu, the sessions for the contributory paper presentation, early-career researcher invited talk session and invited talk sessions were clubbed together as Invited Paper Sessions.

2.10. Pre-Conference Workshop (online) (Related to the on-going 26th Annual Conference)

A Pre-conference online workshop on “*Bayesian Statistics: From Applications to Theory, and From Theory to Applications*” was organized on February 23, 2024. The President Prof. V.K. Gupta expressed his gratitude to Prof. Nabendu Pal, who

is a full Professor of Statistics in the Department of Mathematics, University of Louisiana (UL) at Lafayette, USA, for accepting the invitation and to be the resource person for the workshop.

2.11. Membership Strength of the Society

The Secretary informed that the present strength of the SSCA in terms of its life members is **428** including **15** Foreign Members and **04** Honorary Members. Between the last conference and till date, **15** Indian members have been enrolled as its members. The website of the SSCA is updated with the name and Email ID of the new member as soon she/he is enrolled as a member.

2.12. Functioning of the Website of the Society

Regular communication with the members is maintained by way of updating the Society website from time to time www.ssca.org.in regarding announcement, notifications, various news items like conferences, awards, proceedings of meetings of EC/GB/LOB, list of members, which are relevant to the members. The website gives the latest Executive Council (EC) members and the Editorial Board of the SSCA Journal 'Statistics and Applications'.

2.13. Professional/Academic Achievements of Members

The Secretary informed the GB about the awards/recognitions conferred on the life members of the SSCA. During the year, as per the information received by the SSCA, two members of the society have received laurels. They are as follows:

Institute of Applied Statistics, a statistical training and research institute, Kanpur, launched a scheme in honour of Eminent Professor Dr. Padam Singh. The scheme, known as Dr. Padam Singh R & D Scheme, aims at enhancing the knowledge of statistics and research activities among medical, nursing, paramedical professionals and academicians.

Dr. L. Naga Rajeev has been awarded Doctor of Philosophy from Manipal University, Jaipur.

The Secretary expressed his heartfelt congratulations for these achievements.

2.14. Twenty Fifth Conference of the Society Organized in 2023

The last twenty fifth silver jubilee annual conference of the society was organized by the University of Jammu, Jammu during 15-17 February 2023. It was a grand success because of the untiring efforts of the members of the organizing committee. It was the second time that the conference was organized in that

university, the previous was in the year 2016. The highly structured arrangements made by a very dedicated team of Prof. Rahul Gupta, Dean, Faculty of Mathematical Sciences and Chairman, Dr. Parmil Kumar, Head, Department of Statistics and Convener, Dr. Pawan Kumar, Co-Convener, Dr. V.K. Shivgotra, Organizing Secretary, Dr Sunil Kumar, Co-Organizing Secretary and their colleagues were praise worthy. Overall, the conference was academically very enriching for the delegates. The time efficiency was a mark of the conference. The sessions were organized with utmost devotion, care and timeliness. Please accept our heartfelt thanks.

The Society has received strong support from the Executive Council Members, the Editorial Board, the life members, the foreign members, the honorary members and all other friends and well-wishers, which is gratefully acknowledged. The SSCA looks forward to continuing support from one and all. Together we shall be able to strengthen the society and serve the scientific fraternity with renewed zeal, vigour and enthusiasm.

3. Presentation of the Audited accounts of the Society by the Treasurer

The Treasurer, Prof. Ashish Das, presented the balance sheet of the SSCA together with the Audit Report for the financial year 2022-23. It was informed that the SSCA had filed the IT Return for the financial year 2022-23 through its CA. Treasurer mentioned about the amount received by the SSCA as Corpus Fund for the annual endowment lectures and award.

4. Election of the Executive council members and office bearers for the year 2024-25

Members decided to add one more position of Vice Presidents, making it to a total of eight Vice President positions in the EC. Citing the significant continued contributions of Prof. Manisha Pal, Senior Professor and Head, Department of Statistics, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata, to the SSCA, members unanimously agreed to recommend her for the position of Vice President. This decision was welcomed by all members of the General Body as a step to ensure fair representations of female members in the EC.

It was informed that as per the norms of the SSCA, every year, out of a total of fifteen members of the Executive Council (EC) of the SSCA, those who have completed 3 years of term (one term is of 3 years) in office, would be re-nominated/replaced by new members as suggested by the EC and approved by the General Body (GB). By 31st March 2024, four EC members who would be completing three 3 year-term in office are, B Re. Victor Babu, Ranjit Kumar Paul,

S.A. Mir, and V. M. Chacko. With due deliberations, members unanimously decided to re-nominate Dr. B Re. Victor Babu, and Dr. V. M. Chacko for another term and recommended that Dr. Ranjit Kumar Paul and Dr. S.A. Mir be replaced by Dr. Banti Kumar and Dr. Imran Khan as the new members of the EC. As per the norm of the SSCA, the organizing secretary of the 26th annual conference, Prof. Shalini Chandra will be a new member of the EC. This was accepted by the members of the General Body. List of the recommended EC is provided in the Appendix.

Members gratefully acknowledged the services rendered by the outgoing EC Members Dr. Ranjit Kumar Paul and S. A. Mir for their effective roles in managing the day-to-day work of the SSCA. It was also decided to send an appreciation letter to each out-going EC members for the services rendered by them in uplifting the stature of the SSCA.

5. Appointment of auditor for the year 2024-25

It was proposed that M/S Panjrath Kapoor and Company, Chartered Accountant, who is presently auditor of the SSCA, may be continued to look after the accounts of the SSCA for the next financial year 2024-25 due to their satisfactory and timely services provided so far. The Firm has audited and prepared accounts of the SSCA from year 2017-18 to the year 2022-23. They have also filed the income tax returns of the SSCA for all these years and the financial year 2022-23 as well. The proposal was approved.

6. Finalizing the venue of the 27th Annual Conference to be held in February 2025

Prof. Tapan Kumar Chakrabarty, Head, Department of Statistics, North East Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya, brought the request letter from the Vice-Chancellor of NEHU, Shillong to hold the next 27th Annual conference of the SSCA at North East Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya. This was approved unanimously by the General Body.

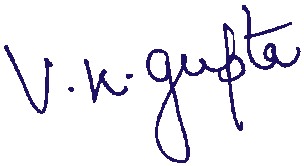
7. Announcement of the Results of Dr. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award for the Year 2024

It was decided by judges and the Jury that the Award of M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award for the year 2024 be presented to Dr. Savita Pareek, IIT Bombay, Mumbai. The other 3 contestants received merit certificates.

8. Any Other Item with the Permission of the Chair

1. One member suggested that the SSCA annual conference might be held anytime between January end and February beginning, if feasible, to facilitate the finalization of accounts before the end of the financial year, for which sufficient time would be available. President informed that the proposal would be looked into. Due to bad weather during that period, it might not be possible.
2. There was discussion regarding long list of pending research papers for possible publication in the journal of the SSCA. It was proposed by the members that in that case, there might be three issues of the journal in a year instead of two at present. President informed that in that case, expenditure will escalate due to printing of journal for one extra issue. He informed that although there are fund constraints, but the feasibility would be worked out.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.



V.K. GUPTA
President, SSCA



DIPAK ROY CHOUDHURY
Secretary, SSCA

New Delhi; 29th March 2024

APPENDIX

List of EC members of SSCA, recommended by the EC, for the year 2024-2025

Founder President

Late Prof. M.N. Das

President

V. K. Gupta

Executive President

Rajender Parsad

Patrons

1. A. C. Kulshreshtha
2. A. K. Nigam
3. Bikas K. Sinha
4. D. K. Ghosh
5. G.P. Samanta
6. K. J. S. Satyasai
7. O.P. Mall
8. Pankaj Mittal
9. Prithvi Yadav
10. R. B. Barman
11. R. C. Agrawal
12. Rahul Mukerjee
13. Rajpal Singh

Vice-Presidents

1. A. Dhandapani
2. P. Venkatesan
3. Praggya Das
4. Ramana V. Davuluri
5. S. D. Sharma
6. V. K. Bhatia
7. Manisha Pal
8. Manish Kumar Sharma

Secretary

D. Roy Choudhury

Foreign Secretary

Abhyuday Mandal

Treasurer

Ashish Das

Joint Secretaries

1. Alope Lahiri
2. Shibani Roy Choudhury
3. Vishal Deo

Members

1. B. Re. Victor Babu
2. Banti Kumar
3. Imran Khan
4. Mukesh Kumar
5. Parmil Kumar
6. Piyush Kant Rai
7. Rajni Jain
8. Rakhi Singh
9. Rao Saheb Latpate
10. Renu Kaul
11. Sapam Sobita Devi
12. Shalini Chandra
13. V. Srinivasa Rao
14. V. M. Chacko
15. Vishnu Vardhan R.

Ex-officio Members

1. Chair Editor, S and A
2. Executive Editor, S and A
3. Director, IASRI
4. DG (Statistics), MOSPI