

Proceedings of the Executive Council meeting of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications held during its XXI Annual Conference at the Department of Statistics and Computer Applications, Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, S.V. Agricultural College, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, on 29th January, 2019 at 8.50 a.m

The Executive Council meeting was attended by the following members:

1. Dr. V.K. Gupta, in Chair
2. Dr. R. B. Barman
3. Dr. R.C. Agrawal
4. Dr. A.K. Nigam
5. Dr. Bikas K. Sinha
6. Dr. Manisha Pal
7. Dr. Rajender Parsad
8. Dr. A. Dhandapani
10. Dr. Piyush Kant Rai
11. Dr. R. Vishnu Vardhan
12. Dr. D. Roy Choudhury
13. Dr. Aloke Lahiri
14. Dr. Hukum Chandra
15. Dr. Ranjit Kumar Paul
16. Smt. Shibani Roy Choudhury

Special Invitees

1. Dr. Dilip Chandra Nath
2. Dr. V. Srinivasa Rao
3. Dr. G. Mohan Naidu

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed all the members and then the agenda items were taken up.

1. Tribute to Professor S. Biswas, Life Member of the Society

Tributes were paid to Late Prof. S. Biswas, life member of the Society, who has left for heavenly abode on January 17, 2019 at New Delhi. President of SSCA, Dr. V.K. Gupta expressed his deepest condolences on the sad demise of Prof. Biswas. One-minute silence was observed as a mark of respect to the departed soul. He informed that on behalf of the Society, a condolence message has been sent to his family by post.

2. Confirmation of the proceedings of the EC meeting held during the 20th Annual Conference of SSCA at the Department of Statistics, Pondicherry University, Puducherry on 29th January 2018.

The proceedings of the Executive Council (EC) meeting held at the Department of Statistics, Pondicherry University, Puducherry on 29th January 2018 were circulated among the EC members. Since no comments were received on the proceedings, the same were confirmed.

3. Arrangements of the 21st conference

Dr. G. Mohan Naidu, the Organizing Secretary of the XXI Annual Conference of SSCA presented a brief sketch about the arrangements being made by organizers in terms of the scientific programmes during the three days (29 – 31 January 2019), boarding and lodging of the delegates and other arrangements related to organization of the conference. The Organizing Secretary informed that the Inauguration and all technical Sessions of the conference would be held at the third floor of the S.V. Agricultural College. Even Sessional Tea would be arranged on the same floor in a big hall earmarked as Refreshment Room. The organizers also provided a room on the same floor for the delegates and the office bearers of the society to sit and have small meetings, if required. He also mentioned that the organizers got financial grant from some organizations, namely, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), The Andhra Agricultural Journal and Andhra Bank. Dr. V. Srinivasa Rao, the Convener of the conference also welcomed all the EC members and the delegates to the conference venue. He expressed that every effort is being made to make the conference academically enriching and to provide hospitality to all the delegates and ensure that their stay is comfortable. All the delegates are being picked up and are being taken to their respective places of accommodation. They are also being transported to the conference venue and after the dinner, the delegates would be dropped to their respective places of stay. The members expressed satisfaction at the arrangements and thanked the organizers for accomplishing the herculean task.

4. Presentation of the report of the activities of the Society

The Secretary, Dr. D. Roy Choudhury presented the activities of the Society during the year 2017-18 and also in brief about the ongoing year. He informed that there were 360 life members as on day. Dr Aloke Lahiri, Joint Secretary, presented the audited report of the society for 2017-18. It was informed upon that the effort of opening a new saving bank account in SBI, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi has been explored and if agreed upon, necessary formalities of the SBI would be completed by the authorized signatories of the SSCA before submitting the same to the SBI. The members of the EC agreed to the suggestions.

5. Announcement of Dr. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award 2019

The President informed the members that a total of 11 nominations were received for this prestigious award. The papers were reviewed by 7 reviewers (both from India and abroad). As per the rues, three of them have been selected for presentation of their respective research papers at the conference and based on the performances at the first phase and second phase, the name of the winner would be declared in the GB meeting during the conference

6. Election of Executive Committee (EC) members and office bearers

For increasing the visibility of the Society, deliberations were made to nominate some eminent distinguished persons in statistics in senior positions in the Society. Chairman proposed that Dr. K.J.S. Satyasai, Department of Economic Analysis and Research, NABARD, Mumbai may be nominated as Patron of the Society. In addition, one of the Vice Presidents of the Society, Dr D.K. Ghosh may be nominated as a Patron of the Society. Dr P. Venkatesan, an eminent Biostatistician was nominated as the Vice President of the SSCA. There are 15 EC members of

SSCA. As per the norms, every year, first five members, who have completed 3 years of term as EC members, may be re-nominated/replaced by the new members suggested by the EC. This year, such five outgoing members are (i) Anshu Bhardwaj, (ii) Amarendra K. Jha, (iii) Shibani Roy Choudhury, (iv) Rahul Gupta and (v) Alka Arora. It was also deliberated that one of the organizers of the conference might be nominated as an EC member out of the five positions. It was proposed in the meeting that during the year 2019-2020, out of the above mentioned first five members during the current year, the members at serial numbers (i), (iii) and (v) might be retained as women representatives and rest of the two members might be replaced by (i) Dr. V. Srinivasa Rao, Convener of the XXI Annual Conference of SSCA and Dr Sanjeev Panwar, Principal Scientist at ICAR. The proposal of EC for 2019-2020 is given in the Appendix and would be placed in the General Body meeting of the Society for its approval.

The Society gratefully acknowledges the services rendered by Dr. Amarendra K. Jha and Dr. Rahul Gupta, EC members for their effective role in managing the day to day work of the Society. It was also decided to send an appreciation letter to the outgoing members for the services rendered by them in uplifting the stature of the society.

7. Appointment of auditor for 2019-20

It has been proposed that M/S Panjrat Kapoor and Company, Chartered Accountant, who is presently auditor of the Society, might be continued to look after the accounts of the Society for the next financial year 2019-20 due to their satisfactory and timely completion of audited report. The Firm has audited and prepared accounts of the society for 2017-18 and would also file the income tax returns for the current financial year 2018-19 (Assessment year 2019-20).

8. Discussion on strengthening and enhancing visibility of the journal of the Society and printing of few copies of the same.

It was informed that till now, 16 volumes of the journal of the Society “Statistics and Applications” have been published, thus far. Volume 16 (1) was released online in July 2018. This was a special volume entitled ‘Survey Methodology and Applications’ to felicitate and honour the legendary statistician, Prof. J.N.K. Rao on his 80th birthday. The issue contains 23 papers from authors all over the globe and runs into 409 pages. Volume 16 (2) was released and hosted at the website of the society on the last day of December 2018. Yet, another Special Volume in honour of Prof. Arun Nigam, a distinguished researcher, will be brought out by end of May 2019 end to felicitate him on his 75th birthday. The EC was of the view that for improving the visibility of the Journal and improving its citation index, it is of paramount importance that we bring special issue of the journal every year. This would be an opportunity to link many authors from outside the country with the journal, which in turn would help improve the stature of the journal. At the same time, concerted efforts should also be made to bring at least one regular issue, if not two, of the journal every year.

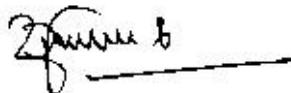
As decided in the last EC meeting during the XX annual conference of the Society at Puducherry, few copies (not more than 100) of the journals, special or otherwise, would be printed on a continuous basis for distribution to the libraries and some renowned research institutes with a purpose of spreading and popularizing the journal. The number of the copies to be printed would be guided by the requirement. The printing of the special volume 16(1) would be taken up immediately. Regarding publishing of journal by a renowned publisher, Dr. Bikas K.

Sinha offered to take it up with some well-known publishers. The Chairman informed that Dr. K. Srinivasa Rao also offered to help in getting the journal printed by some reputed publisher. This would be further taken up by the EC and the Editors of the journal.

9. Other issues

- (i) President informed that the next XXII Annual Conference of SSCA would be held at the Sabitribai Phule Pune University, Pune possibly during the first week of January 2020. Approval in this regard has been received from the Hon'ble VC of the University.
- (ii) Last year, during the EC meeting a proposal was placed before the EC to bring internationally renowned statisticians as honorary members of the Society, which might help in accelerating the growth of the Society. Names of two such statisticians were approved as honorary members by the EC and ratified by the GB. They are Profs. J.N.K. Rao and Rahul Mukerjee. This year, President proposed the name of renowned Statistician, Prof. P.K. Sen as the honorary member of the Society. The proposal was agreed upon by the EC members unanimously.
- (iii) The suggestion of Dr. R.B. Barman in the last EC meeting regarding formation of an 'Apex Society', which might organize seminars, workshops etc. focusing on real issues on the pattern of Royal Statistical Society was discussed at length and it was decided that since the matter needs a well-planned road map and constructive interaction with renowned professional organizations, it would take some time to initiate any action on that. The suggestion, however, has merit and would be taken up with seriousness soon.
- (iv) Dr. Arun K. Nigam suggested in the last EC meeting that the society might provide statistical consultancy to Research Scholars / Institutions seeking such services. In this connection, Dr. D.C. Nath was requested to give some projects to the Society.
- (v) Dr. Rajpal Singh, Patron of the Society, proposed last year that to encourage the young scientists, two separate awards, namely, Talented Scientist Award and Inspired Scientist Award might be conferred every year. President informed that other than the winner of Dr. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award, the two other contestants invited for the presentation of the research papers, are given the appreciation/merit certificates every year. It has been decided in the EC meeting that since Dr. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award is already being conferred to a young scientist every year since last five years, it was difficult to bifurcate this award further into two. This was agreed to by the EC members. The item was thus dropped, as of now.

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



(D. Roy Choudhury)
Secretary, SSCA

Dated: February 16, 2019

APPENDIX

LIST OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2019-20

Founder President

Late Prof. M.N. Das

President

V K Gupta

Executive President

Rajender Parsad

Patrons

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. R. B. Barman | 5. A C Kulshreshtha | 9. D.K Ghosh |
| 2. Rajpal Singh | 6. Pankaj Mittal | 10. K.J.S. Satyasai |
| 3. Aloke Dey | 7. A K Nigam | |
| 4. R.C. Agrawal | 8. Prithvi Yadav | |

Vice-Presidents

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. S.D. Sharma | 4. A. Dhandapani |
| 2. V.K. Bhatia | 5. P. Venkatesan |
| 3. Bikas K. Sinha | |

Secretary

D. Roy Choudhury

Foreign Secretary

Sudhir Gupta

Treasurer

Ashish Das

Joint Secretaries

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1. Aloke Lahiri | 2. L.M. Bhar | 3. Hukum Chandra |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------|

Members

Sl. No.	Name	Sl. No.	Name
1.	K.V. Palanichamy	9.	Ranjit Kumar Paul
2.	Manisha Pal	10.	R. Vishnu Vardhan
3.	Praggya Das	11.	Alka Arora
4.	Piyush Kant Rai	12.	Shibani Roy Choudhury
5.	Manish Kumar Sharma	13.	Anshu Bhardwaj
6.	P. Rath	14.	Sanjeev Panwar
7.	S.A. Mir	15.	V. Srinivasa Rao
8.	Manish Trivedi		

Ex-officio Members

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| 1. Chair Editor, S & A
2. Executive Editor, S & A | 3. Director, IASRI
4. DG, CSO |
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