

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS**

**Date: February 22, 2025 at 07.00 P.M.**

**Venue: Department of Statistics, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong-793022, Meghalaya**

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

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|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. V.K. Gupta (In Chair)   | 13. Manish Kumar Sharma     |
| 2. R.B. Barman             | 14. K. Muralidharan         |
| 3. B.K. Sinha              | 15. Rahul Gupta             |
| 4. Ashish Das              | 16. Vishal Deo (online)     |
| 5. Sukanta Dash            | 17. Kh Kumarchand S         |
| 6. Shibani Roy Choudhury   | 18. Akurathi Jaya Naga Sri* |
| 7. Dipak Roy Choudhury     | 19. Arpan Singh*            |
| 8. Aloke Lahiri (online)   | 20. Dileep Kumar M.*        |
| 9. S. Opendra Singh        | 21. Siva G.*                |
| 10. Bishal Gurung          |                             |
| 11. Dwijesh Chandra Mishra |                             |
| 12. Mukesh Kumar           |                             |

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

At the outset, the Chairman, Prof. V.K. Gupta, welcomed the GB members present. This was followed by deliberations on the agenda of the GB meeting which was circulated to all members, along with the meeting notice, through email in advance. Following is the record of minutes on all agenda items discussed in the meeting.

### **1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual GB meeting held at Banasthali Vidyapith, Banasthali, Rajasthan on February 27, 2024**

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 or objections were received prior to the meeting and during the GB meeting, the proceedings were declared to be unanimously confirmed.

## **2. Presentation of the Secretary's Report**

The Secretary, Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury, presented the report on the activities of society during the year 2024-2025. The presented report was quite elaborate and highlighted various activities of the SSCA and the new initiatives that were taken up during the past year.

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

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

Volume 22, Nos. 1 (June 2024) and 2 (December 2024), respectively, containing 21 and 22 papers, were hosted online at the website of the SSCA and were printed for limited circulation. The full-length papers can be viewed and downloaded free of cost from the SSCA website at <https://ssca.org.in/journal.html>.

### **Special issue in fond memory of Late Prof. C.R. Rao**

A special issue, "Life and Work of Prof. C.R. Rao (1920-2023): The Revolutionary of Statistical Sciences," was published online in December 2024 as Volume 22 No. 3. It was devoted to the fond memories of the late legendary statistician C.R. Rao. A team of globally celebrated scientists worked as Guest Editors for the special issue, and 37 papers contributed by national and international scientists of eminence have been included in this issue. The efforts and contributions of the guest editors, authors, reviewers, and the production team, particularly Siva G., Baidya Nath Mandal, and Jyoti Gangwani, were commendable. Moreover, the vision, support, and efforts made by the twin statisticians (brothers) Bimal Kumar Sinha and Bikas Kumar Sinha in conceptualizing and preparing this special issue were instrumental in its successful execution.

### **2.2. Release of Special Proceedings of the 26<sup>th</sup> annual conference held at the Bansthali Vidyapith, Banasthali**

Special Proceedings comprising 12 selected papers of the 26th annual conference of the SSCA held at the Bansthali Vidyapith, Bansthali, during February 2024 were hosted (at <https://ssca.org.in/specialproceedings.html>) and printed, after the usual review process, in October 2024 with the International Standard Book Number (ISBN - No.978-81-950383-5-0).

### **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 Twelfth lecture was delivered in 2024 during the 26<sup>th</sup> annual conference by the eminent statistician Dr. Manisha Pal, Senior Professor and Head, Department of Statistics, St. Xavier's University, Kolkata.

During the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Conference, this lecture was delivered by Prof. Mausumi Bose, a retired Professor at the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.

#### **2.4. Aditya Shastri Memorial Lecture**

In order to honour the memory of Prof. Aditya Shastri, Architect of modern Banasthali Vidyapith and former Vice Chancellor, Aditya Shastri Memorial Lecture was introduced in the year 2024 at the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual conference of the SSCA at Banasthali Vidyapith. The first lecture was delivered by the eminent mathematician Prof. Navin M. Singhi. It was further decided to organize the said lecture in every subsequent annual conference of the society.

During the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Conference, this lecture was delivered by Prof. Rajendra Kumar Sharma, Professor at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.

#### **2.5. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award 2024**

During the year 2024, four candidates could qualify for the presentation of their research before a selected panel of five judges. Presentations were held during the 26<sup>th</sup> annual conference. Selection of the winner was based on the review of their papers, merit of presentation, and ability to answer the questions. Ms. Savita Pareek, Research Scholar at IIT Bombay, was selected for the M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist award - 2024.

#### **2.6. A Session on Financial Statistics**

Like the previous 5 conferences, a session on Financial Statistics was organized during the 26<sup>th</sup> conference held in the year 2024. The session featured three presentations from distinguished delegates, namely, Kamkhenthang Guite, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Government of India; Dr. (Smt.) Praggya Das, RBI; and Smt. Kanchana V. Ghosh, Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, Government of India.

## **2.7. Endowment Lectures**

It was decided in the annual GBM held in 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 comprise of 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 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference by the following speakers:

The third BK Kale Memorial Endowment lecture was delivered by Prof. Ashis Sengupta, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.

The third Bikas K. Sinha Endowment lecture was delivered online by Prof. Thomas Mathew, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA.

The third JK Ghosh Memorial Endowment lecture was delivered by Dr. Dootika Vats, IIT Kanpur.

The third V.K. Gupta Endowment Award for Statistical Thinking and Practice lecture was delivered online by Prof. J. Sunil Rao, University of Miami, USA.

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 all the donors.

## **2.8. Pre-Conference Workshop**

As you are aware, a Pre-Conference Online Workshop with Discussions was held on February 23, 2024. The title of the workshop was “Bayesian Statistics: From Applications to Theory and from Theory to Applications.” It was organized by Prof. Nabendu Pal, University of Louisiana, USA. The co-organizer of the workshop was Prof. Manisha Pal, St. Xavier’s University, Kolkata. The workshop

was intended to give all the participants, especially Master's and Doctoral students, an opportunity to enhance their understanding of Bayesian Analysis with plenty of applications.

### **2.9. Invited Talk Session for Early-Career Researchers**

With the aim of promoting newly joined faculty members and senior Ph.D. students to make presentations at the annual conferences of the SSCA, a 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 Sessions for the Young Researchers below the age of 32 years. During the Silver Jubilee conference at the University of Jammu, the sessions for the contributory paper presentation, early-career researcher invited talk sessions and invited talk sessions were clubbed together in the schedule to highlight the equal importance of all the sessions. The same practice was continued in the 26<sup>th</sup> annual conference.

### **2.10. Regarding the SSCA journal- Statistics and Applications (S&A)**

The quality of our elaborate editorial board, consisting of celebrated and well-recognized research professionals of high repute from different parts of the world, echoes our priority. S&A brings out two issues per volume (year). Currently, it is indexed in (a) Web of Science- Emerging Sources Citation Index with Impact Factor, (b) Scopus, (c) National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) score of 6.03 effective January 01, 2024, and (d) Google Scholar.

### **2.11. Membership Strength of the Society**

The Secretary informed that the present strength of the SSCA in terms of its life members is **454** including **16** Foreign Members and **05** Honorary Members. Between the last conference and till date, **24** Indian members and **01** Foreign member have been enrolled. The SSCA website is updated with the name and email ID of the new member as soon as 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 ([www.scca.org.in](http://www.scca.org.in)) from time to time 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 also contains information on 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 society encourages its life members to share information on their awards and achievements. The society takes pride in acknowledging the awards/recognitions conferred upon the life members of the Society. During the previous year, Prof. Rahul Mukerjee, a renowned statistician of international repute, who is a retired Professor of IIM, Kolkata and an honorary member of the SSCA, has been awarded the “Vigyan Shri” of the Rashtriya Vigyan Puruskar 2024 (National Science Award 2024). The society expresses its heartfelt congratulations to Prof. Mukerjee on this achievement.

### **2.14. Twenty Sixth Conference of the Society Organized in 2024**

The twenty-sixth annual conference of the society was organized by the Banasthali Vidyapith, Banasthali, during 26-28 February 2024. 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 the university, with the previous conference held in the year 2013. The highly structured arrangements made by a very dedicated team of convenors, Prof. Anshuman Shastri, Director of the Center for Artificial Intelligence, and Prof. Sarla Pareek, Dean, Faculty of Mathematics and Computing, Organizing Secretary Prof. Shalini Chandra, Head of Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and seven co-organizing secretaries and their colleagues was praiseworthy. Overall, the conference was academically very enriching for the delegates. Time efficiency was a mark of the conference. The sessions were organized with utmost devotion, care, and timeliness. Particular mention may be made regarding the very efficient arrangement of transport facility which involved receiving and dropping delegates from the Jaipur airport/railway station, which were nearly 80 kms away from Banasthali. It demonstrated unparalleled planning and execution from the dedicated organizing committee and the volunteers.

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 continued support from one and all. Together, we shall be able to strengthen the society and serve the scientific fraternity with renewed zeal, vigor, and enthusiasm.

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

Treasurer of the society, Prof. Ashish Das, presented the balance sheet of the SSCA together with the Audit Report for the financial year 2023-24. It was informed that the SSCA had filed the IT Return for the financial year 2023-24 through its CA. The treasurer mentioned the amount received by the SSCA as a Corpus Fund for the annual endowment lectures and awards. We expect that in the current year, we will have about 50 Lakh in the corpus. The treasurer also suggested that young faculty members should target ministries for grants and look for other avenues for funding. Currently, our major expense goes into printing journal and proceedings.

### **4. Election of the Executive council members and office bearers for the year 2025-26**

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 term (one term is of 3 years) in office, would be either re-nominated or replaced by new members as suggested by the EC and approved by the General Body (GB). It was further brought to the knowledge of the GB that by March 31, 2025, four EC members - Rajni Jain, Rakhi Singh, V. Srinivasa Rao, and Sapam Sobita Devi - will be completing their 3-year terms in office.

With due deliberations, members unanimously decided to re-nominate Dr. Rajni Jain, and Dr. Rakhi Singh for another term and recommended that Dr. Bishal Gurung and Dr. Sukanta Dash will replace Dr. Sapam Sobita Devi and Dr. V. Srinivasa Rao. The proposal was unanimously accepted by the members of the General Body.

### **5. Appointment of secretary and joint secretaries from 2026**

Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury and Dr. Alope Lahiri expressed their desire to be relieved from their respective office-bearer positions in the SSCA effective year 2026. It was decided that Vishal Deo will be the secretary and replace Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury in 2026. Further, Bishal Gurung and Rakhi Singh will become joint secretaries from the year 2026, along with Shibani Roy Choudhury. Dr. Gurung and Dr. Singh will replace Dr. Deo and Dr. Lahiri. The society expressed its heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury and Dr. Alope Lahiri for their invaluable contributions over many years in building and strengthening the society since its initial days.

It was also decided that Vishal Deo, Bishal Gurung and Rakhi Singh will initiate their working now with the guidance from Dipak Roy Choudhry and Alope Lahiri to provide them training and make them experts in one year to take up the regular assignment most effectively and efficiently.

**6. Finalizing the venue of the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference to be held in January 2026**

After deliberating upon the proposals received by the society, the GB unanimously decided that Dr. Prithvi Yadav, VC, Sir Padampat Singhania University (SPSU), Udaipur, Rajasthan will be given the responsibility of organizing the 28<sup>th</sup> SSCA conference at SPSU, Udaipur, Rajasthan.

**7. Announcement of the Results of Dr. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award for the Year 2025**

As per the decision of the judges and the Jury, the M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award for the year 2025 was presented to Ms. Akurathi Jaya Naga Sri, University of Hyderabad. The other 3 contestants viz., Arpan Singh, Deleep Kumar M. and Siva G. were honoured with merit certificates.

**8. Any Other Item with the Permission of the Chair**

- a. It was discussed whether the word “invited” talk should be retained in the invitation letters that are sent. The members agreed that as long as the letter mentions that the registration fees, travel, and lodging are to be borne by the speaker, the word “invited” can be retained in the invitation letters.
- b. During the EC meeting held on February 15, 2025, the Foreign Secretary, Prof. Abhyuday Mandal, suggested that to encourage the participation of foreign members in the SSCA conference, the conference could be scheduled in either December or May-June when the foreign researchers can find it easier to travel to India. After due deliberations, it was decided that the next year's conference will be held within the first two weeks of January.
- c. Suggestions were received to reconsider life membership fees, citing the fact that it has remained the same over many years, irrespective of the increased expenses and inflation. The members opined that the current life membership needs to be increased to sustain the activities of SCCA. It was



decided that the life membership be increased to the following amounts: (a) Life Member India: Rs 5,000.00; (b) Life Member Foreign: Rs 15,000.00; (c) Institute Member India: Rs 25,000.00; and (d) Institute Member Foreign: Rs 75,000.00.

- d. It was also discussed that the cutoff marks for inviting participants for the M.N. Das Young Scientist Memorial Award presentation will be again increased to 7.0 (instead of the current 6.5) out of 10.0, and only three participants will be called to make the presentation.
- e. It was also discussed that avenues to reduce the cost of printing journal publications may be explored. For example, we could mention to the reviewers that the printed copy will only be in B&W so that the authors should make their figures in the appropriate manner, a strict page limit per publication may be conveyed to the authors, and the collaboration with a publication house like Springer may be initiated (provided that they agree to our terms).

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

**V. K. Gupta**  
President, SSCA



**Vishal Deo**  
Joint Secretary, SSCA

**New Delhi, 22 March 2025**

## Appendix

### List of EC members of SSCA for the year 2025-2026 as approved by the GB

#### 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. K. J. S. Satyasai
6. Pankaj Mittal
7. Prithvi Yadav
8. R. B. Barman
9. R. C. Agrawal
10. Rahul Mukerjee
11. Rajpal Singh

#### Vice-Presidents

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

#### 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. Bishal Gurung
4. Imran Khan
5. Mukesh Kumar
6. Parmil Kumar
7. Piyush Kant Rai
8. Rajni Jain
9. Rakhi Singh
10. Rao Saheb Latpate
11. Renu Kaul
12. Shalini Chandra
13. Sukanta Dash
14. V. M. Chacko
15. Vishnu Vardhan R.

**Ex-officio Members**

1. Chair Editor, S&A
2. Executive Editor, S&A
3. Director, ICAR-IASRI, New Delhi