



SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS

(Registered under Societies' Registration Act-XXI of 1860. Registration No. 32833)

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Late Prof. M.N. Das

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V. K. Gupta

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Rajender Parsad

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1. *Chair Editor, S and A*
2. *Executive Editor, S and A*
3. *Director, IASRI*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS

Date: January 02, 2026 at 08:00 P.M. (IST)

Venue: The Meeting was conducted in Virtual Mode through Zoom platform

The Executive Council meeting was attended by the following members.

1. Rajender Parsad - in Chair
2. A.C. Kulshreshtha
3. Bikas Kumar Sinha
4. D. K. Ghosh
5. V. K. Bhatia
6. Manisha Pal
7. Praggya Das
8. A. Dhandapani
9. Manish Kumar Sharma
10. Dipak Roy Choudhury
11. Ashish Das
12. Alope Lahiri
13. Shibani Roy Choudhury
14. Abhyuday Mandal
15. Vishal Deo
16. Shalini Chandra
17. Bishal Gurung
18. Durba Bhattacharya
19. Sourish Das
20. Raosaheb Vikaram Latpate

Welcome address by the Chairman

In the absence of the President, Prof. Vinod Kumar Gupta, who is currently recovering from a surgery, the meeting was chaired by the Executive President, Dr. Rajender Parsad. At the outset, the chairman welcomed the EC members and other invited members present in the meeting. He also prayed for an early and complete recovery of Professor VK Gupta. He also greeted all members for a happy, healthy, wishful, peaceful and productive year 2026. He expressed his satisfaction with the society's progress over the years and took the opportunity to apprise the members of significant achievements of three life members of the society. Prof. D.K. Ghosh, Patron, who is a retired Professor of Statistics, Saurashtra University, Rajkot, Gujarat, received the Life Time Achievement Award from the Indian Association of Reliability and Statistics (IARS) for his exceptional and sustained contribution to the Design of Experiments, Statistical Computing, Operational Research, Biostatistics, Survival Analysis and Computational Statistics. Prof. Ramana V. Davuluri, Vice President, who is a Professor of Biomedical Informatics, State University of New York at Stony Brook, NY, USA, has been

decorated with the “State University of New York (SUNY) Distinguished Professor” award. Dr. Ranjit Kumar Paul, life member, who is a Principal Scientist at ICAR- Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute has been selected as ICAR National Fellow.

The chairman also lauded the excellent work done by the editors and editorial board members of the society’s journal, *Statistics and Applications*, in furthering the quality and impact of the journal through their dedicated contributions. He expressed his gratitude towards the editors, authors, reviewers, and the production team for their unwavering dedication and efforts in bringing the editions of the journal on time.

Before handing over the floor to the Secretary to proceed with the agendas, he apprised the members about the upcoming 28th annual conference of the society, *International Conference on Innovative Trends in Statistical Science, Data Analytics and Interdisciplinary Research-2026 (ITSSDAIR-2026)*, to be held during January 05-07, 2026 to be organized by the Department of Statistics and Centre for Advanced Studies, Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), Ganeshkhind, Pune.

Following the opening remarks from the Chair, the Secretary proceeded with the deliberations on the agenda of the meeting, which was circulated to all members, along with the meeting notice dated December 23, 2025, through email in advance.

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the EC meeting held virtually on zoom platform on 15.02.2025 prior to the 27th conference (held at the Department of Statistics, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya).

The said proceedings were circulated among the members of the SSCA through email. It was also hosted at the website of the SSCA. Since no comments or objections were received prior to and during the meeting, the proceedings were unanimously confirmed.

2. Brief report by the organizing secretary of the upcoming 28th annual conference regarding the arrangements made for the conference

The organizing secretary, Prof. Raosaheb Latpate, presented a brief report about plans and the arrangements made for the upcoming 28th annual conference of the SSCA (ITSSDAIR-2026) at SPPU, Pune. He informed that the organizers have been in constant coordination with the SSCA through progress review meetings, which has helped in streamlining the plans. While discussing the progress made so far, Prof. Latpate shared that the full conference schedule, along with accommodation details, have been finalized and were emailed to all participants. Regarding transport facilities, he informed that vehicles have been arranged to receive delegates from airport and railway station on need basis. List of student volunteers for facilitating transport and accommodation have also been prepared and shared with the delegates for seamless coordination. The organizing secretary also highlighted the key venues of the conference. All members conveyed their satisfaction with the progress, praised the efforts being made by the organizers, and congratulated the organizing secretary for the same.

In addition, the council requested Dr Ashish Das to convene Keynote Address; Dr DVV Ramana for introducing the VK Gupta Endowment Award Lecture, Dr David Hanagal to introduce BK Kale Memorial Lecture and Chair of session, Dr Manish Sharma to introduce the JK Ghosh Memorial Lecture and the Chair of the session, Dr Vishal Deo to introduce BK Sinha Endowment Lecture; Dr Shalini Chandra to introduce Aditya Shastri Memorial Lecture and Dr. Manish Sharma to convene and introduce MN Das Memorial Lecture. Dr Manish Sharma, Dr Manisha Pal, Dr RV Latpate, Dr Vishal Deo and Dr Bishal Gurung to prepare 3-4 lines about each of the invited speakers.

3. Presentation of report on activities of the Society by the Secretary

The Secretary, Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury, presented the report on the activities of society for the period February 2025 to January 2026. The presented report was 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:

3.1. SSCA Journal, Statistics and Applications (S&A)

The quality of our elaborate editorial board, comprising of celebrated and well recognized research professionals of high repute from different parts of the world, echoes our priority. 'Statistics & Applications' brings out two issues per volume (year). It is now indexed in (a) Accepted as one of the Scopus indexed journals; (b) National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) score of 6.30 effective 01 January 2025; (c) included in UGC Care list (India); (d) Google Scholar.

Volume 23 with two Issues No. 1 and 2, of May 2025 and December 2025 containing 22 and 20 papers respectively 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 website of the SSCA (<https://ssca.org.in/journal.html>).

3.2. Release of Special Proceedings of the 27th annual conference held at the North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong

Special Proceedings comprising of 13 selected papers of the last 27th annual conference of the SSCA held at the NEHU, Shillong in 2025 were hosted online and printed in October 2025 after the usual review process with International Standard Book Number ISBN- 978-81-950383-8-1 and are available at the website of the SSCA.

3.3. 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 Thirteenth memorial lecture in this series was delivered in 2025 during the 27th annual SSCA conference by the eminent statistician Prof. Mausumi Bose.

3.4. 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 26th Annual conference of the SSCA at Banasthali Vidyapith. The second lecture in this series was delivered by eminent mathematician, Dr Rajendra Kumar Sharma, IIT Delhi.

3.5. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award 2024

During the year 2025, four candidates could qualify for the presentation of their research before a selected panel of four judges. Presentations were held during the last 27th annual conference. Selection of the winner was based on the review of their papers, merit of presentation, and ability to answer the questions. **Ms. Akurathi Jaya Naga Sri, Research Scholar at the University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad** was selected for the award. The SSCA is indeed grateful to the family of Late Prof M.N. Das for providing the financial support for this award.

3.6. Session on Financial Statistics

Like the previous 6 conferences, there was a session on Financial Statistics during the year with three presentations made by Dr. Anujit Mitra, Adviser, RBI, Mumbai, Dr. Ratul Mohanta, Professor, Gauhati University, Guwahati, and Dr. Ashish Das, Professor, IIT Bombay, Mumbai.

3.7. 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 27th Annual Conference by the following speakers:

- The fourth B.K. Kale Memorial Endowment Lecture was delivered by Prof. Debasis Kundu, IIT Kanpur.
- The fourth Bikas K. Sinha Endowment lecture was delivered by Prof. Alok Goswami, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.
- The fourth JK Ghosh Memorial Endowment lecture was delivered by Dr (Ms.) Debamita Kundu, University of Virginia, USA.
- The fourth V.K. Gupta Endowment Award for Statistical Thinking and Practice lecture was delivered online by Prof. Shyamal Peddada, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, 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.

3.8. Organisation of Online Talk

During the year, SSCA organised an online talk on October 04, 2025 by Dr M. Vishnu Vardhana Rao, Honorary Vice Chancellor, Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Hyderabad (Deemed to-be University) and ICMR-Chair for Medical Statistics. The topic of the talk was 'Statistics in the Era of AI and Big Data: Relevance, Evolution and Challenges'. The session was chaired by Dr. Saket Chaudhary, Core Faculty at the Koita Centre for Digital Health, IIT Bombay.

3.9. 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 subsequent conferences, including the 27th annual conference.

3.10. Membership Strength of the Society

The Secretary informed that the present strength of the Society in terms of its life members is 476 including 16 Foreign Members and 05 Honorary Members. Between the last conference and till date, 21 Indian members have been enrolled as its members. The website of the Society is updated with the name and Email ID of the new member as soon he/she is enrolled as a member.

3.11. Functioning of the Website of the Society

Regular communication with the members is maintained by way of updating the Society website (www.ssca.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’.

3.12. 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.

The society is elated to know about awards/recognitions conferred on the three life members of the Society– Prof. D.K. Ghosh, Patron, Prof. Ramana V. Davuluri, Vice President and Dr Ranjit Kumar Paul, life member.

Prof. D.K. Ghosh, a retired Professor of Statistics, Saurashtra University, Rajkot, Gujarat received the Life Time Achievement Award from the Indian Association of Reliability and Statistics (IARS) for his exceptional and sustained contribution to the Design of Experiments, Statistical Computing, Operational Research, Biostatistics, Survival Analysis and Computational Statistics. The Award was received by him from the Hon’ble Minister of Education, Govt. of Haryana, Vice Chancellor of M.D. University, Rohtak and Shri Dharamvir Singh, MP. at the IARS Life Time Achievement Award Felicitation Ceremony on Nov 28, 2025 on the eve of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of M D University, Rohtak.

Prof. Ramana V. Davuluri, Professor of Biomedical Informatics, State University of New York at Stony Brook, NY, USA has been decorated with the “State University of New York (SUNY) Distinguished Professor” award. Distinguished Professorship is conferred upon individuals, who have achieved international prominence and a distinguished reputation within a chosen field. Distinguished Faculty Rank is a promotion to a prestigious, tenured rank above that of full professor.

Dr. Ranjit Kumar Paul, Principal Scientist at ICAR- Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute has been selected as ICAR National Fellow.

The society expresses heartiest congratulations for the recognition of their achievements. SSCA feel honoured by the recognition of its life members. Our best wishes to Prof. D.K. Ghosh, Prof. Ramana V. Davuluri and Dr Ranjit Kumar Paul

3.13. Twenty Seventh Conference of the Society Organized in 2025

The twenty seventh annual conference of the society was organized by the North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya during 21-23 February 2025. It was a grand success because of the untiring efforts of the members of the organising committee. It was for the first time that the conference of the SSCA was organised in an institution in the North-Eastern region. The highly structured arrangements made by a very dedicated team consisting of the Conference Chair, Dr. S.K. Jha, Head, Department of Statistics, Prof. T.K. Chakrabarty, Secretary, Prof. Bishal Gurung and Dr. Bhanita Das, Joint Secretaries and other members of the organising committee under the overall guidance of Prof. A.K. Chandra, Dean of the University, were praise worthy.

Overall, the conference was academically very enriching for the delegates. The time efficiency was a mark of the conference. The arrangements made for the conference were meticulously planned and executed. Particular mention may be made of the very efficient transport facility to pick up the delegates from the Guwahati/Shillong Airport and back at different times. The society expresses heartfelt gratitude to the organizing team.

Concluding remarks:

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 Society would like to express its special appreciation for the remarkable services of Prof. V.K. Gupta as a President as well as the Chair Editor of the journal 'Statistics and Applications'. The contributions of Prof. Gupta made to the journal have been invaluable to the Society, which could bring it to a new height. 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.

4. Presentation of the audit and the 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 2024-25. It was informed that the SSCA had filed the IT Returns for the financial year 2024-25 through its CA. The treasurer mentioned the amount received by the SSCA as a Corpus Fund for the annual endowment lectures and awards. He further mentioned that as was expected we have about 50 Lakh in our kitty. 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.

5. Election of the Executive council members and office bearers for the year 2025-26

As per decision of the General Body meeting held on February 22, 2025, Dr Vishal Deo would be Secretary in place of Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury, Dr. Bishal Gurung will be Joint Secretary in place of Dr Alope Lahiri and Dr Rakhi Singh will be Joint Secretary in place of Dr Vishal Deo.

The chair and the EC members expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury and Dr. Alope Lahiri for their invaluable contributions made to the society since its foundation. It was further proposed that, to ensure continued constant guidance and support from both Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury and Dr. Alope Lahiri, they may be inducted as members of the EC for the next two years against casual vacancy in place of Dr. Rakhi Singh and Dr. Bishal Gurung, who are currently EC members and are being elected to the positions of Joint Secretaries. Members wholeheartedly supported the proposal and it was unanimously accepted.

It was informed that 6 EC members (Dr Mukesh Kumar, Dr Parmil Kumar, Dr R Vishnu Vardhan, Dr RV Latpate, Dr Renu Kaul and Dr Piyush Kant Rai) had completed their 3-year term. 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). Based on the contributions of the members who have completed their terms, 4 members (Dr Mukesh Kumar, Dr R Vishnu Vardhan, Dr RV Latpate (as organizer of 28th Annual Conference and Dr Piyush Kant Rai) out of 6 were recommended for re-nomination by the Executive Council. The name of Dr V. Ramasubramanian and Dr PK Das were recommended as member of Executive Council in place of Dr Parmil Kumar and Dr Renu Kaul.

Proposal for SSCA and S&A from the President SSCA, Vinod Kumar Gupta

Dr. Ashish Das apprised the council about the proposal sent by the President, Prof. Vinod Kumar Gupta, regarding functioning and leadership structure of SSCA and the journal S&A. Following proposal was placed before the council for due considerations.

a) Recommendation about Editorial Board of S&A Journal –

The present chair editor (proposed Editor-in-Chief) has the authority to form the Editorial Board (EB) and inform the Executive Council (EC) about the formation. No other member has the authority to intervene in the proposal. It is requested that the following may be informed to the EC and may be implemented immediately.

1. Editor-in-Chief – Vinod Kumar Gupta
2. Chair Editors – Durba Bhattacharya; Sourish Das
3. Executive Editors – Rajender Parsad (Senior); Saurabh Bhattacharya; Snehanshu Saha
4. Editors –
 - a. Managing Editors – Baidyanath Mandal; Suman Saha
They will be assigned to get the papers reviewed when assigned to them by Chair Editors and Editor-in-Chief.
They will keep the Latex template always updated as and when required.
They will also finalize the papers as per the Latex format.
They will add the accepted papers to the overleaf.
 - b. Production Editor – Jyoti Gangwani
She will be responsible for formatting of papers as per the Latex.
She will prepare the combined volume of the issue.
She will host the accepted papers on the website of the journal.
She will add papers to google scholar.
5. Editorial Board – The vacancies created with the changes, as above, will be filled up by the 2 Chair Editors and the Executive Editors in consultation with the Editor-in-Chief.
6. General recommendations for approval
 - a. The position of Editor-in-Chief will be permanent.
 - b. The term of Editorial Board starting from Chair Editor onwards will be 4 years. Individual positions may be extendible by another term in consultation with the Editor-in-Chief. After the completion of their term, the Chair Editors will be advisors of the Editorial Board.
 - c. The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to curtail the period of any member of EB.

b) Recommendation about Society SSCA –

1. President-in-Chief – Vinod Kumar Gupta
2. Presidents – Ashish Das; Rajender Parsad (Senior)
3. Executive Presidents – Jyotirmoy Sarkar; Manish Sharma; Manisha Pal (Senior)
4. Foreign Secretary – Abhyuday Mandal;
5. Treasurer – Ashish Das
6. Secretary cum Joint Treasurer – Vishal Deo
7. Joint Secretary – Bishal Gurung (To look after the new members; Sending documents to the live members of society & others; Rakhi Singh (Issuing circulars for meetings; Preparing conference proceedings and circulating); Shibani Roy Choudhary (General look after of the society)

Executive Council members to be decided by 2 Presidents and Secretary cum Treasurer in consultation with President-in-Chief.

Dr. Dhandapani A., Vice President, will continue looking after the preparation of pamphlets for seminars, workshops and others, and lead the Zoom/Google meetings.

8. General recommendations for approval

- a. The position of President-in-Chief will be permanent.
- b. The term of Executive Council from President onwards will be 4 years. Individual positions may be extendible by another term with the consultation of the President-in-Chief of the Society. After the completion of their term, the Presidents will be advisors of the Executive Council.
- c. The President-in-Chief reserves the right to curtail the period of any member of EC.

The extant Present, Vinod Kumar Gupta, desires that this may be implemented immediately as he will not be able to participate actively for a few months. He has also requested Ashish Das for streamlining the working of the society and the journal. He feels that this is the best arrangement possible.

This arrangement is also necessary because the certificates of the Endowment Lectures and other important lectures need to be signed by the Presidents. The decision must be implemented with immediate effect under exceptional circumstances.

Normally, the terms of EC and EB start from April 1 of the year but this time being an exceptional case, the EB will come into effect from next day of the Executive Council meeting after informing the EC members. The proposed EC will also come in effect immediately for smooth running of the society.

The council members strongly recommended adoption of all the changes proposed by Prof. Vinod Kumar Gupta, and opined that these initiatives will further strengthen the society and the journal, and ensure their smooth functioning.

6. Appointment of auditor for 2026-27

The treasurer and members expressed satisfaction with the work of the current auditor and decided to continue with the same for the year 2026-27.

7. Discussion on the venue of the 29th Annual Conference to be held in 2027

Few proposals have been received for organizing the 29th Annual Conference of SSCA. The proposals are not yet through competent authority of the concerned organizations. Few more proposals are expected. It was recommended that the President-in-Chief, in consultation with the Presidents may finalize the venue after exploring more options and inform the Executive Council.

8. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

1. It was unanimously decided to bring out a special volume of the journal Statistics and Applications in 2026 to felicitate Prof. Vinod Kumar Gupta in his 75th Birthday year, in recognition of his exemplary contributions to the advancement of society and his outstanding scientific achievements in the field of Statistics. This volume will consist of only invited papers. It was decided that the guest editors for the special volume will comprise of Rajender Parsad, Bikas Kumar Sinha, DVV Ramana, Jyotirmoy Sarkar, Ashish Das, Durba Bhattacharya, Sourish Das, and BN Mandal.
2. It was informed that it seems that E-mail addresses of few members have changed and E-mails gets bounced back. For smoother communication, all EC Members were requested to share the new E-mail addresses of the members.

It was also opined that the members may meet in person during the upcoming conference to discuss any other point with the permission of the Chair. It was decided that the EC members will meet on January 05, 2026 at 8.30 A.M. at the Geology Department Auditorium, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune.

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



(Dipak Roy Choudhury)
Secretary, SSCA

New Delhi, 02 January 2026