

Proceedings of the General Body Meeting held on 30th January 2018 at 8.00 p.m. during the 20th Annual Conference of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications at the Pondicherry University, Puducherry during 29-31 January 2018

The twentieth General Body meeting of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications (SSCA) was held at the Pondicherry University, Puducherry on 30th January 2018 at 8.00 p.m. under the chairmanship of President Dr. V.K. Gupta. The following members attended the meeting:

1. V.K. Gupta- In Chair
2. Rajpal Singh
3. A.C. Kulshreshtha
4. Rajender Parsad
5. A.K. Nigam
6. A. Dhandapani
7. D. Roy Choudhury
8. Ashish Das
9. Alope Lahiri
10. Hukum Chandra
11. Mukesh Kumar
12. Anshu Bharadwaj
13. Shashi Dahiya
14. Piyush Kant Rai
15. Sukanta Dash
16. Ranjit Kumar Paul
17. Soumen Pal
18. K.V. Palanichamy
19. Ravindra Srivastava
20. B.N. Mandal
21. P. Tirupathi Rao
22. R. Vishnu Vardhan
23. Shibani Roy Choudhury

Following delegates also attended the GB meeting, without any voting rights because they are not the members of the SSCA

1. S.B. Lal
2. V. Muralidhar
3. D.C. Mishra
4. S. Ravichandran
5. Ishapathik Das

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the all the members present in the meeting. He also appreciated the spirits of the delegates who have been attending the sessions of the conference till late in the evenings. It speaks volumes of the academic standards of the conference and the interest of the delegates. The following issues were discussed and appropriate decisions taken as follows:

1. Tribute to Dr. K.C. Raut, Life Member of the Society

Tributes were paid to Late Dr. K.C. Raut, life member of the Society, who left for heavenly abode on November 27, 2017 at Bhubaneswar. It was informed that on behalf of the Society, a condolence message was sent to his family by e-mail through Dr. A.K.P.C. Swain, a life member of the Society. Also, the message was sent by post to his home address. One minute silence was observed as a mark of respect to the departed soul.

2. Confirmation of the proceedings of the GB meeting held during the 19th Annual Conference of SSCA at the SKUAST-J on 7th March 2017

The proceedings of the General Body (GB) meeting held at the SKUAST-J, Jammu on March 07, 2017 were circulated earlier to the members. No comments were received from the members. The members present in the meeting were requested to make any comments, which they would like to make. Since no comments were received on the proceedings, these were confirmed.

3. Action taken report on the last GB meeting at SKUAST-J in 2017

It was informed that during last EC meeting, a four-member sub-committee was constituted with the following terms of reference: (i) to deliberate upon whether or not to initiate life time achievements award in recognition of the contributions made in the advancement of statistical sciences with innovative applications; (ii) to suggest in what form the award should be given and what should be the total worth of the award, should the committee proposes to institute such an award; and (iii) to prepare the rules and regulations for deciding on such an award, should the committee proposes to institute such an award. The sub-committee submitted its report to the LOB at its eighth meeting in January 2018. The LOB brought attention to some other related issues and requested the sub-committee to relook at the recommendations based upon the deliberations in its meeting. The sub-committee has been requested to submit the revised report to the LOB. It was, however, decided that the speaker of the M.N. Das Memorial Lecture be given a Certificate for delivering the lecture. It was also decided that all the speakers who had delivered the M.N. Das Memorial Lecture in the past be given the certificate. Accordingly, the certificates were given to Dr. R.B. Barman, Dr. A.C. Kulshreshtha, Dr. A.K. Nigam who were present in the EC meeting. Dr. Alope Dey and Dr. A.K. Srivasatava would be given the certificate at Delhi. Dr. Rajeeva L. Karandikar was presented the Certificate during the lecture delivered during the present conference.

4. Conferring of Dr M N Das Memorial Young Scientist Award – 2018

It was informed that a total of 10 papers were received, which were sent to 5 reviewers from India and Abroad. Based on the average score of the reviewers, three papers were selected for presentation. A separate bench of 5 judges evaluated the presentations. Based on the scores of the reviewers and judges, the result was finalised. The President announced the result. Mr. Prakash S. Badal, a research scholar at IIT Bombay, Mumbai was declared as the winner of the Dr. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award- 2018. The winner was presented with a cheque of Rs. 20,000.00 and a certificate. Mr. Sadikul Islam and Mr. Saurav Guha, both research scholars at IASRI, New Delhi, were each presented with a memento and an Appreciation Certificate.

5. Presentation of the report of the activities and accounts of the Society

The report of the activities and accounts of the society were presented by the Secretary, Dr. D. Roy Choudhury and Dr. Ashish Das respectively. The reports were accepted by the GB.

6. Appointment of the auditor of the society for 2018-19

The General Body ratified the decision of the Executive Council that the present auditor of the Society, namely, M/S Panjrath Kapoor and Company, Chartered Accountants may be requested to continue for the next financial year 2018-19 as well. They may also be requested to prepare the income tax returns for the financial year 2017-18 (Assessment year 2018-19).

7. Continuance of the Regional Office of SSCA at Rajkot

The Society presently has a Regional Office at the Saurashtra University, Rajkot, Gujarat. It has been noticed that since the last two years, no tangible progress of work was visible there. The progress report of the Regional Office was also not being sent to the Executive Council. The Centre incharge had also since retired from the active service and there was no one in the Department to take care of the activities of the regional office. The matter was discussed at length in the Executive Council and it was proposed to wind up that office *w.e.f.* 1st April 2018. The proposal of EC was ratified by the GB.

8. Printing of the journal of the Society

The GB was informed of a proposal made at the last meeting of the LOB to print some copies of the journals of the Society in addition to uploading the same on its website. To start with, it has been suggested to print a maximum of 100 copies of the special volume in honour of Prof. J.N.K. Rao. It was also proposed at LOB that a maximum of 100 copies of the journals, special or otherwise, might be printed on a continuous basis. The number may be revised, if necessary. This would facilitate its distribution to some of the renowned research institutes and Libraries resulting in spread of the popularity of the journal. EC approved the proposal. The proposal was ratified by the GB.

9. Election of the Executive Council members and office bearers for the year 2018-19

The proposal of the Executive Council (EC) for the year 2018-19 was placed before the General Body. As per the norms and conventions, every year five members of EC, who have completed three years of term, may be renominated / replaced by new members. This year the 5 outgoing members are (i) Dr. B.N. Mandal, (ii) Dr. P. Rath, (iii) Dr. S.A. Mir, (iv) Dr. Girish Jha and (v) Dr. P.C. Gupta. It was also deliberated that one of the organizers of the conference may be nominated as an EC member out of the 5 positions. The Executive council proposed that following five may be nominated to Executive Council after the approval of General Body: (i) Dr. P. Rath, (ii) Dr. S.A. Mir, (iii) Dr. Manish Trivedi, IGNOU, (iv) Dr. Ranjit Kumar Paul, IASRI and (v) Dr. R. Vishnu Vardhan, Pondicherry University. The proposal was approved by the General Body. The EC for 2018-19 is given in the Annexure.

The Society gratefully acknowledges the services rendered by Dr. B.N. Mandal, Dr. Girish Jha and Dr. P.C. Gupta, Executive Council members for their effective role in managing the day to day work of the society. It was also decided to send the appreciation letter to the outgoing members for the services rendered by them.

10. A vote of thanks to the organisers of the conference

The President thanked the organisers of the present 20th conference for their all-round performance in conducting a smooth and fruitful conference. The arrangements made by a very dedicated team of Professor P. Dhanavanthan, Dr. P. Tirupathi Rao, Dr. R. Vishnu Vardhan, Dr. Kiruthika, Dr. Navin Chandra and their colleagues/staff/students were praise worthy. He thanked the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the University for his support and guidance in hosting this major event. The academic content of the conference was of a very high standard with a record number of delegates participating as Invited Speakers. The hospitality extended by the organizers and the boarding and lodging arrangements was excellent. The President also expressed his pleasure over the student volunteers, who shouldered the responsibility to look after the delegates right from their arrival at the guest houses excellently. The way they had decorated the venue of the inaugural day programme with high enthusiasm was really praiseworthy. A resolution would be presented in the valedictory function tomorrow.

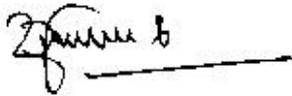
11. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

- i) Honouring Dr Rajpal Singh, Patron of the Society: The SSCA has successfully completed two decades of its formation. It was thought that on this happy occasion it would be nice to honour the founder member and Patron, Dr. Rajpal Singh, because the society was founded at his campus in 1998. Dr. Rajpal Singh, founder member and Patron of the Society was honoured at the GB meeting by presenting a shawl to him. The President mentioned that despite his age, the octogenarian member of the Society had travelled all the way from Bhopal to attend the conference and bless the members. Dr. Rajpal Singh in his address to the members, after mentioning a brief profile of Late Founder President of the Society, mentioned about the steps and efforts made by the late Founder President and his students at the initial stages to establish the society. He expressed satisfaction at the elevation of the Society to its present form after two decades since its formation with nearly 325 members presently on roll and thanked the President and other office bearers for this remarkable feat. He congratulated the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the University and his associates and students for organising the conference excellently.
- ii) A proposal was once mooted at LOB meeting to bring internationally renowned statisticians as honorary members of the Society. Bringing such renowned statisticians to the mainstream may help in accelerating the growth of the society. It would also help enhancing the visibility of the society globally. During the Executive Council meeting, the President read a mail from Prof Alope Dey, who also suggested bringing big stalwarts of international eminence as honorary members of the society. It was also suggested by Prof Alope Dey that if the proposal is approved by the Executive Council, then Prof JNK Rao and Prof Rahul Mukerjee may be included as Honorary members after obtaining their consent. This would, however, be not done regularly. The proposal was agreed upon unanimously. The two names suggested were approved for Honorary Membership. The proposal was agreed upon by the members in General Body unanimously.
- iii) President informed that no university/institute has yet volunteered to organize the 21st annual conference of the Society. It was informed that two universities, namely, Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Cooch Behar (W.B.) and Gauhati University, Guwahati have been approached for the same. Dr. Rajpal Singh informed that he would try to get the next annual conference to be organized at Devi Ahilya

Vishwavidyalaya, Indore (M.P.). The LOB/Executive Council may decide on the venue after going through these proposals or any other proposal that the Executive Council / LOB deem worthy.

- iv) Dr. Rajpal Singh, Patron of the Society, proposed 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 besides 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. However, the Executive Council was requested to look into the feasibility of instituting such awards. This was informed to the GB.

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



Dipak Roy Choudhury
Secretary
Society of Statistics,
Computer and Applications



V.K. Gupta
President
Society of Statistics,
Computer and Applications

ANNEXURE-I
LIST OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2018-19

Founder President: Late Prof. M.N. Das

President: V.K. Gupta

Executive President: Rajender Parsad

Patrons:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. R.B. Barman | 2. Rajpal Singh |
| 3. Alope Dey | 4. A.C. Kulshreshtha |
| 5. A.K. Nigam | 6. Pankaj Mittal |
| 7. R.C. Agrawal | 8. Prithvi Yadav |

Vice-Presidents:

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

Secretary: D. Roy Choudhury

Foreign Secretary: Sudhir Gupta, USA

Treasurer: Ashish Das

Joint Secretaries:

1. Alope Lahiri
2. L.M. Bhar
3. Hukum Chandra

Members:

1. Anshu Bhardwaj
2. Amarendra K. Jha
3. Shibani Roy Choudhury
4. Rahul Gupta
5. Alka Arora
6. K.V. Palanichamy
7. Manisha Pal
8. Praggya Das
9. Piyush Kant Rai
10. Manish Kumar Sharma
11. P. Rath
12. S.A. Mir
13. Manish Trivedi
14. Ranjit Kumar Paul
15. R. Vishnu Vardhan

Ex-officio Members:

1. Chair Editor, Statistics and Applications
2. Executive Editor, Statistics and Applications
3. Director, ICAR-IASRI, New Delhi
4. Director General, CSO