

SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS

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

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE VIRTUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS

Date: February 25, 2022 at 12.00 noon.

Venue: The Meeting was conducted in Virtual Mode.

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

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. V.K. Gupta- In Chair | 23. B.N. Mandal |
| 2. Bikas K. Sinha | 24. Cini Verghese |
| 3. S.D. Sharma | 25. A. Dhandapani |
| 4. V.K. Bhatia | 26. K.K. Singh Meitei |
| 5. Rajender Parsad | 27. Neha Midha |
| 6. Ravindra. Srivastava | 28. Dwijesh Mishra |
| 7. Manish Kumar Sharma | 29. Ranjit Kumar Paul |
| 8. Alope Lahiri | 30. Renu Kaul |
| 9. Ashish Das | 31. Ritika Gaba |
| 10. Sachin M. Patil | 32. Sukanta Dash |
| 11. Sapam Sobita Devi | 33. Soumen Pal |
| 12. Anshu Bharadwaj | 34. Jitendra Kumar |
| 13. Shibani Roy Choudhury | 35. Vasili B.V. Nagarjuna |
| 14. Ramasubramanian, V | 36. S. Ravichandran- Sp. Invitee |
| 15. Alka Arora | 37. Savita Pareek-Sp. Invitee |
| 16. N R Sahasranaman | 38. Sachin M. Patil- Sp. Invitee |
| 17. Shashi Dahiya | |
| 18. D Roy Choudhury | |
| 19. V. Srinivasa Rao | |
| 20. R. Vishnu Vardhan | |
| 21. Mukesh Kumar | |
| 22. Tirupathi Rao Padhi | |

Note: Because of the online meeting, few omissions of the attendances of the members may be there.

1. Condolences of the demised members

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members present and then before starting the deliberations, tributes were paid to the four demised members of the Society, who had left for their heavenly abode between the 23rd and 24th conferences, namely, R. C. Jain, Hukum Chandra, Lal Mohan Bhar and S.M.G. Saran. Chairman expressed his deepest condolences on their sad demise. Two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect to the departed souls.

3. Presentation of Secretary's Report

The Secretary, Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury presented the report of the activities during the year 2021-2022. 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:

3.1 Publication of the Special volume of the journal of the Society

It has been informed that a special volume of the Journal has been released in May 2021 in memory of Late Prof. Aloke Dey with 32 research papers from the renowned statisticians across the globe. The Special Issue has been titled as 'Contributions to Combinatorics, Design of Experiments, Linear Algebra and Related Areas'. The said Special Issue, in addition to having research papers from the renowned statisticians across the globe, also has a tribute to Late Prof Aloke Dey from four renowned statisticians, Profs. Vinod Kumar Gupta, Rahul Mukerjee, Mausumi Bose and Arun Kumar Nigam and like all other volumes, it has been hosted on the website of the society and has open access to all the readers.

In addition, a regular issue of the journal having twenty research papers, has been published during the year 2021.

Secretary thanked all the authors, reviewers, Executive Editor, Associate Editors and all others for their timely help and support.

Secretary informed that the NAAS rating of the journal has moved upwards to 5.76. Earlier it was 4.57.

3.2 Release of Special Proceedings of 23rd (Web) conference held at ICAR-NAARM

Special Proceedings comprising of few selected papers of the 23rd annual conference of the SSCA held in virtual mode in 2021 have been released and are available at the website of the Society. The soft copy of the special proceedings were sent to all the life members of the society and also printed for distribution to its authors, several libraries in different zones of the country and other prominent statisticians. A copy of the said Special Proceedings was sent to the office of the ISBN as per its requirement.

3.3 M. N. Das Memorial Lecture

To perpetuate the memory of the Founder President, Late Prof. M.N. Das Memorial Lecture is organized every year during the annual conference of the Society. The lecture is delivered by an eminent personality in the field of Statistics and allied sciences. So far, ten such memorial lectures have been held. The last one was delivered in the current 24th conference by Prof. John Stufken, USA.

3.4 Memorial Sessions for the demised members

It was decided by the EC to organise two Memorial Sessions in this conference in memory of two of its demised members. These are Hukum Chandra Memorial Session and Lal Mohan Bhar Memorial Session with 5 and 6 lectures respectively during these sessions.

3.5 M. N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award 2022

The Secretary informed that a total of 8 research papers were received for this prestigious award. These papers were reviewed by 6 reviewers from India and abroad. As per the rules, first three candidates with an average score of 7 or more on a 10-point scale, were selected for presentation of their research papers at the present annual conference before a panel of judges for evaluation. Based upon the performances at the first phase and the second phase, the name of the winner would be declared at this GB meeting. Secretary informed that in the current year, two candidates could qualify the above criteria of securing an average score of 7 or more on a 10 point scale so they were advised to make presentations.

3.6 A session on Financial Statistics

Like earlier four years, there would be a session on Financial statistics with four presentations.

4. New activities initiated

4.1 Annual Endowment/Memorial Endowment Lectures and Award

Secretary informed that as a follow up of the proceedings of the AGM held during the 21st Annual Conference of the society at Tirupati in the year 2019, three annual endowment lectures to honour celebrated statisticians of Indian origin have been planned to be initiated this year. The proposal was approved at the virtual meeting of the select group of the Executive Council on 11th January 2022 and circulated among the EC members through Email. These three lectures are: (i) B.K. Kale Endowment Lecture in honour of Prof. B.K. Kale, Retired Professor of Savitri Bai Phule Pune University, Pune; (ii) Bikas Kumar Sinha Endowment Lecture in honour of Prof. Bikas Kumar Sinha, Retired Professor of the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata; and (iii) J.K. Ghosh Memorial Endowment Lecture in Memory of Late Prof. J.K. Ghosh, Retired Director, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata. Besides, there is a V.K. Gupta Endowment Award for Achievements in Statistical Thinking and Practice to be initiated from this conference. For initiation of the above Endowment Lectures and Award, the Endowment money have been paid by the relatives and students/well-wishers of the person, in whose name, the Endowment Lecture/Award has been initiated. The SSCA is indeed grateful to all the donors.

Secretary further informed that individual committees have been formed for selection of speakers for the three endowment and memorial endowment lectures including already functional annual M N Das Memorial Lecture. For the Dr. V. K. Gupta Endowment Award, a Search–cum-Selection Committee has been formed for selection of awardee. The details regarding these Endowment Lectures and Award are available in the proceedings of the virtual meeting of the select group of the SSCA held on 11th January 2022. It is hosted at the website of the Society.

The EC granted its approval to this proposal and was appreciative of the efforts made for initiating these Lectures and Award. The proposal was placed before the GB for its approval. It was approved by the GB.

4.2 Pre-Conference Workshop

A Pre-conference online workshop on Reader-Focused Writing in Quantitative Sciences was organized by the Society on 22 February 2022, a day before the commencement of the conference. The response was satisfactory with a total number of 81 persons registering for the same. The Resource person of the workshop was Prof. Jyotirmoy Sarkar of USA. On behalf of the Society, Secretary thanked all, particularly, those members, who had worked hard for getting students and young research scholars registered for the workshop. The Society expressed its gratefulness to Prof. Jyotirmoy Sarkar for his valiant efforts in organizing the said workshop as a resource person.

4.3 Invited Talk Session for Young Researchers

Secretary informed that the select group of the SSCA during its meeting on 11th January 2022 approved a proposal that the title ‘Contributory Paper Session (CPS)’ might be replaced by the title ‘Invited Talk Session for the Young Researchers below the age of 30 years (ITSYR)’ in the present conference and be continued in future as well. In this connection, there were detailed discussions on this proposal, which are as follows:

This issue was discussed at length. The major concern expressed was that there are always many contributed papers presentations by some senior researchers as well. The reason is that there are always limited invitations (about 50 only) for the invited talk sessions. So the others, who are interested in making the presentations of their research, come through contributed papers sessions. So in view of this, the following decisions were taken:

- (a) There would be invited talk sessions for young researchers below the age of 32 years.
- (b) Contributed papers presentations would keep continuing as such along with the invited talk presentations by young researchers.
- (c) Senior researchers, who are Professor or holding an equivalent position or above would not be considered for contributed papers presentation. Such persons may be nominated as Chairpersons for organising the sessions during the conference. If possible, they may also be accommodated in the

invited talk presentation sessions.

The proposal was approved by GB.

4.4 Proposal for Popular Lecture during Annual Conferences

A suggestion was made by an EC member to introduce a Popular Lecture of interest in every conference, addressing some burning issue of the country. The speaker must be an established person on the subject. Chairman informed that he had a discussion with some known personalities regarding possibility of delivery of a lecture by any one of them of say 35-40 minutes but it did not materialise. EC appreciated the proposal and consented to it with the advice that starting from the next year 25th annual conference of the SSCA, the said lecture may be arranged in every conference. Chairman suggested that some appropriate remuneration may also be paid to the speaker as a respect for appreciation for the speaker. The proposal was approved by the EC and ratified by the GB.

5. Members of the Society

Secretary apprised that 21 persons became life members of the Society between the last and this conference – Indian -19 and Foreign - 02. The total number of members of the Society as on date is 405, comprising of 386 from India, 14 from abroad and 5 honorary members.

6. Other activities

Regarding the laurels earned by the members, it is as under:

- (a) Dr R.B. Barman, Patron of the Society, received the Prof P.C. Mahalanobis National Award -2021 in Official Statistics;
- (b) Dr Sanjoy Roy Choudhury, member of the Society has been promoted as Professor at the Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University; and
- (c) Dr Vishnu Vardhan R., Managing Editor of the journal of the Society, has been promoted as Associate Professor of Statistics in Pondicherry University, Puducherry.

Chairman congratulated the members for their outstanding achievements. He requested the members to inform him and the Secretary about any of their achievements during last one year before the conference.

GB then approved the Secretary's Report.

Chairman then requested the Executive President to present the remaining agenda items.

7. Confirmation of the proceedings of the virtual GB meeting of SSCA held on February 26, 2021

The said proceedings were circulated among the members of the Society. It was also hosted at the website of the Society. Since no comments were received on it, the same were confirmed by the GB. One copy of the said proceedings was sent to the Office of the Registrar of Societies, Delhi as per its requirement.

8. Filing of the IT Return for the FY 2020-2021 and presentation of the Audited Report

The treasurer presented the Balance Sheet of the Society together with the Audit Report for the financial year 2020-21. It has been informed that the Society had filed the IT Return for the financial year 2020-21 through its CA. He informed that this is the third year of filing the said return. Refund due to excess deduction due to Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) has been received by the Society. The facility of Net Banking System is being used for all financial transactions. The same was appreciated and accepted by the EC. The Accounts for the year 2020-2021 was accepted by the GB. The Treasurer informed that the said audit report has been submitted to the concerned authorities. Chairman appreciated the effort of the Treasurer for taking keen interest of looking into the painstaking work of the accounts and for his efficient handling of the job of accounts of the society. He was of the view that there was no better person than him for this work. Members supported his view. Treasurer further informed that because of the satisfactory work done by the CA, his engagement with the Society might be further extended by one more year, 2022- 2023. There was a suggestion from the Chairman that instead of extending the appointment for one year, let it be extended for three years so that this issue of appointment need not be placed in the GB meeting every year. The proposal was appreciated by the members with a condition that if any unpleasant incident happens between the Society and the CA within the three years, then the Treasurer may request the GB to reconsider its decision. The proposal has been approved by the GB. President was of the view that the financial situation of the Society has improved considerably due to endowment funds and increase in membership but he requested the members to motivate the young researchers to become its members.

9. Election of Executive Committee (EC) Members

It was informed that as per the norms of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications (SSCA), every year, five out of a total of fifteen council members of the Executive Council (EC) of the SSCA, who have completed 3 years of term in office, would be re-nominated/replaced by new members as suggested by the EC and approved by the General Body (GB). Four of the EC members would be completing 3 years term in office (2019-2022) on 31 March 2022. They are, Alka Arora, Anshu Bharadwaj, Sanjeev Panwar and V. Srinivasa Rao. Out of them, it was proposed that Dr. V. Srinivasa Rao may be re-nominated and for the other three posts, Rakhi Singh, Sapam Sobita Devi and Rajni Jain may be nominated. Chairman explained the reason for new inclusion. Since Rakhi Singh is presently pursuing her postdoc at USA, she might be in a position to popularize the Society abroad in a better way. Ms. Sapam Sobita Devi will represent North East region of India in the EC and Rajni Jain is a computer professional. The proposal of EC for the year 2022-23, given in the Appendix, was approved by the EC, and the same was placed in the General Body meeting of the Society for its approval.

Chairman informed that Dr. Sudhir Gupta, Foreign Secretary of the SSCA wanted to be relieved from the responsibility from the next year due to personal reasons. Dr. Sudhir Gupta proposed the name of Dr. Abhyuday Mandal, Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Georgia, Athens, USA in his place. The proposal was approved by the EC.

The proposed list of EC members for the year 2022-23 has been approved by the GB.

The Society gratefully acknowledged the services rendered by Drs. Sudhir Gupta, Alka Arora, Anshu Bharadwaj and Sanjeev Panwar, EC members for their effective roles in managing the day to day work of the Society. It was also decided to send an appreciation letter to the out-going members for the services rendered by them in uplifting the stature of the Society.

10. Proposed venue of the 25th Annual Conference of the SSCA

The possible venue of the next conference was discussed at length. Chairman informed that at the request of the HOD of the Department of Statistics, Manipur University, the VC of that university has given his approval to hold the 25th annual conference of the Society there. The Chairman informed that since the proposal is with us, the Society has to look into the pros and cons of holding the conference there. He was of the view that the conference should be in a hybrid mode because of the participation of foreign delegates with different time zones. Since 25th conference will be silver jubilee one, it is to be ensured that it goes well without any problem and Manipur University should ensure that before taking the heavy responsibility, preparation of which should start now. Chairman was apprehensive that because of the online participation of foreign delegates, it might be possible that the duration of the online conference might be of four days instead of three days with the duration of daily conference might be extended till late evenings. So these things should be borne in mind before organizing the conference at Manipur. Ultimately, considering the eagerness of the Manipur University to hold the conference there, Chairman concluded the discussion by conveying to Prof. K.K. Singh Meitei that the request of that university was under active consideration of the SSCA and after discussion among its members, the Society would get back to the University.

11. Vote of thanks to the officials of the SSCA

Chairman thanked the members of the Executive Council and members of the Society for their painstaking efforts and providing their unflinching support in the advancement of activities of the Society and bringing it and the Journal to its present stature with the aim of serving the scientific community with great zeal and vigour. He thanked Dr. Rajender Parsad, Executive Editor, Drs. B.N. Mandal and Vishnu Vardhan R, Managing Editors, the Guest Editors, the Associate Editors, the Editorial Board of the Journal of the Society along with all the referees for taking keen interest in the development of the Journal. He conveyed his heartfelt gratitude

towards one and all those, who have directly or indirectly helped in the growth of this Society.

12. Announcement of the Result of the MNDM YSA 2022

Chairman declared the result of the MNDM YSA 2022. He complimented both the presenters, namely, Shri Sachin M. Patil and Savita Pareek for their excellent presentations and congratulated Sachin M. Patil for becoming the winner of the prestigious award. Chairman hoped that both, being young research scholars, would try to serve the Society with greater enthusiasm. He urged both to become members of the Society. The winner received the award money and a certificate and the runners up received a Young Scientist Merit Certificate.

13. Vote of Thanks to the Organisers of the 24th Annual Conference of the SSCA

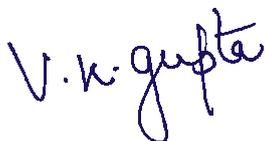
Chairman congratulated the ICAR-NAARM for successfully organizing the five day 24th online annual conference of the SSCA. On behalf of the Society, he expressed his highest appreciation for Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM for his excellent management of organizing a successful and stimulating conference. Organizing such a fabulous conference for two years in succession, involves tremendous amount of confidence and energy. He expressed his highest gratitude to Dr. G. Venkateshwarlu, the Convener of the conference and the Joint Director, ICAR-NAARM, Dr. A Dhandapani, Organizing Secretary and Principal Scientist and Dr. S. Ravichandran, Co-organizing Secretary and Principal Scientist for their dedication and hard work. He remarked that overall the organizational part was brilliantly handled. Provision for recording of the whole 5-day programme and one day pre-conference workshop has been made. He thanked ICAR-IASRI team for the back up support of the uninterrupted online conference under the leadership and guidance of Dr. K.K. Chaturvedi of ICAR-IASRI. Chairman remarked that the implementation part was excellent. Most amazing part of the presentations spread over five days, was that 139 speakers presented their papers and there were only two absentees. That itself speaks of the great success of the conference. The experiment of having a separate identity for young researchers, namely, 'Young Researchers Invited Talk' has been felt to be successful as many such researchers came forward to present their papers.

The members expressed satisfaction of the arrangements and thanked the organizers for accomplishing the herculean task. President expressed satisfaction over the arrangements and he thanked the Director, ICAR-NAARM and organizers for all the perfect arrangements and requested Dr Dhandapani to convey his thanks to the Director on behalf of the Society.

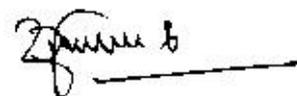
Remarks by the Chairman about delay in the publication of the accepted paper in the journal of the Society

There is a general complaint from the authors of the accepted papers that as per them, there is a considerable time gap between their papers being accepted and published. The Chairman informed that since there is a long queue of accepted papers and a fixed number of papers can be published at a time in one issue, the waiting time becomes long. Anyhow, the acceptance of the papers are intimated to the authors as soon as those are accepted.

The meeting then ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(V.K. Gupta)
President, SSCA



(Dipak Roy Choudhury)
Secretary, SSCA

New Delhi: 29th March 2022

List of EC members of SSCA for the year 2022-2023

Founder President

Late Prof. M.N. Das

President

V. K. Gupta

Executive President

Rajender Parsad

Patrons

1. A. C. Kulshreshtha
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4. S. D. Sharma
5. V. K. Bhatia

Secretary

D. Roy Choudhury

Foreign Secretary

Abhyuday Mandal

Treasurer

Ashish Das

Joint Secretaries

1. Alope Lahiri
2. Shibani Roy Choudhury

Members

1. Anil Kumar Yadav
2. B. Re. Victor Babu
3. Manish Kumar Sharma
4. Manisha Pal
5. Piyush Kant Rai
6. Praggya Das
7. Rajni Jain
8. Rakhi Singh
9. Ranjit Kumar Paul
10. Rao Saheb Latpate
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