



INDIAN BOTANICAL SOCIETY



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Minutes of the meeting of the General Body of the Indian Botanical Society held during XLVI All India Botanical Conference at SGB Amravati University, Amravati On 6th November 2023 at 12.30 pm.

Meeting of the GB of the Society was held at SGB Amravati University, Amravati, On 6th November 2023 at 12:30 PM under the Presidentship of Prof. N.K. Dubey.

At the outset the President welcomed the members and asked the Secretary to take up the agenda.

The following items on the agenda were taken:

1. To condole the death of members of society :

The botanists who were long associated with the society, and left this material world during the last one year are **Prof. M.S.Swaminathan**, Chennai; **Prof. S.S.Bisht**, Lucknow, **Prof. Bir Bahadur**, Hyderabad, **Prof. Nandulal Paria**, Kolkota; **Prof.Uma Kant**, Jaipur ; **Prof.H.D.Kumar**, Varanasi; **Dr.A.Rajanikanth**, Lucknow, **Dr.Nitesh Joshi**, Mumbai, **Prof. Ved Pal Singh**, New Delhi, **Dr.D.D.Pandey**, Nalanda

2. Confirmation of minutes of last meeting held at Lucknow University, Lucknow on Oct.16, 2022) Minutes of the General Body were posted on the website on **Oct.20, 2022**

3. The Secretary requested the Chief Editor of JIBS Prof. Y. Vimala to highlight the significant achievements and bottlenecks. Prof. Vimala Chief Editor, JIBS presented the Editor's report and stated that:

- (i) Number of the articles received up till October 2023 are 197 out of which 80 are published, 26 rejected, for 36 there was no response, and 55 are in process. The total income is Rs. 3,12,081/- expenditure incurred was Rs 1,71,006/- and the balance in hand is Rs. 1,41,075/- and bills pending are of Rs.96040/-

- (ii) The suggestion that the medal awardees should submit their lecture article in JIBS was reiterated.
 - (iii) The journal has been indexed in Web of Science. Prof. Trivedi suggested that an online Newsletter should be started. Prof. G.S. Shekhawat is asked to see the modalities.
 - (iv) It was mentioned by the Chief Editor that the Old and worn-out journals at CCS Meerut were sold out the money was deposited with the treasurer.
 - (v) All volumes of the Journal of the Indian Botanical Society are now available in digital form as scanned version, and have been uploaded on the Society's website. The journal is now Indexed in UGC-CARE, and listed in Web of Science.
 - (vi) In order to maintain one set of the journal, the Society has entered with an MoU with CSIR-NBRI for keeping the hard copy in the Library of CSIR-NBRI, Lucknow
- 4.** The Treasurer had to leave the conference to attend to some unavoidable official work. Hence the report was presented by the Chief Editor.
- 5.** Prof. N.K. Dubey, President informed that the Department of Botany B.H.U has shifted good volumes of the journal to the new library. The incumbent HOD has expressed inability for accommodating further bound volumes. The committee resolved that no further volumes be sent to the BHU library.
- 6.** Prof. Seshu Lavania, Secretary presented the annual report for the year 2022-23. She informed that since the last meeting following activities have been undertaken:
- i.** The Election of the Executive Council for 2023-2026 was conducted within time before the end of the term in March 2023.
 - ii.** On the recommendation of the EC meeting held during the IBS conference at Lucknow, and approved by the GB, further election process was carried from the end of the Secretary, IBS. As per existing practice Ballot papers were prepared and sent to the life members by post at their given address.
 - iii.** All the ballots received were counted by a committee constituted by the President, IBS. The committee comprised of : Prof. Rakesh Pandey (CSIR-ES, CIMAP,

Member EB) as Observer to supervise counting done by four local Life Members, namely Prof. Nalini Pandey, Vice President, IBS & Associate Editor-JIBS, Prof. Amrithesh Shukla, Prof. Alka Kumari and Dr G.C. Pathak(Associate Professor). Results were declared and posted on the website.

iv. Following life members have been declared elected:

Secretary	Prof. Seshu Lavania
Treasurer	Prof. Alok Srivastava
Council Members	
1	Prof. R.K. Kohli, Mohali
2	Prof. Manoj Kumar Dhar, Jammu
3	Prof. Manoj Prasad, New Delhi
4	Prof. S.K. Garg, Bareilly
5	Dr. Manoj M Lekhak, Kolhapur
6	Prof. Varsha N Nathar, Amravati
7	Prof. Santhosh Nampy, Calicut
8	Prof. P. Giridhar, Mysore
9	Dr. Sandeep Kumar, Haridwar
10	Dr. Yogesh Joshi, Jaipur
11	Prof. H.K. Goswami, Bhopal
12	Prof. Prasenjit Mukherji, Ranchi
13	Prof. Shanti S Sharma, Sikkim
14	Dr. A.A. Mao, Kolkata
15	Prof. S.K. Barik, Shillong
16	Dr. Sarita Srivastava, Prayagraj

v. Three rolling memorial lectures under the auspices of the IBS were planned to be organized by the different Universities. Accordingly, Prof. Y.S. Murty Memorial Lecture was organized by Prof. V.N. Pande at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur, Prof. A. R. Mehta Memorial Lecture was organized by Prof. Meenakshi Vaidya, at Jai Hind College, Mumbai and Prof. C.M. Govil

Memorial Lecture was organized by Prof. Shonali Chaturvedi, at Ewing Christian College, Prayagraj. The IBS Foundation Day Lecture was delivered by Prof. DK Upreti, FNA, and was organized by Prof Santhosh Nampy at Calicut University, Calicut.

vi. Presentation of Prof SN Chaturvedi Memorial Lecture for the year 2022.

This lecture was organized by the Department of Plant Sciences, M.J.P. Rohilkhand University, Bareilly, and delivered by Prof. D.K. Maheshwari on Oct.28, 2023.

vii. The directory of life members and annual members has been updated up to **31th Oct. 2023**, and uploaded on the website. Concerted efforts are made to update the contact address and E-mail ID of the Members to the extent possible and available. Members are requested to help update the contact address of the remaining members.

viii. Society related activities; upkeep of records and reports is totally paperless.

6A. Life and Annual Members enrolled in 2023- **150 (AM), 100 (LM)**

6.B. Medal Awards for 2023 and Election of the President of the Society for 2024:

Following members have been elected unanimously by the EC for the award of various medals of the society for the year 2023, and President for 2024.

Life Time Achievement Award	:	Prof. S.K. Sopory, New Delhi
Prof. Birbal Sahni Medal	:	Prof. Amita Pal, Kolkata
Prof. P. Maheshwari Medal	:	Prof. Rudra Deo Tripathi, Lucknow
Prof. V. Puri Medal	:	Dr. A.A. Mao, Kolkata
Prof. Y.S. Murty Medal	:	Dr. Neha Pandey, Prayagraj
President 2024	:	Prof. U.C. Lavania, Lucknow

A three-member committee constituted by the President unanimously approved the following life members for the Medals who have been decorated with the award during the inaugural function:

H.Y. Mohan Ram Memorial Award : Prof. A.K. Bhatnagar, New Delhi

Prof. P.C. Trivedi Medal for Editorial Excellence : Prof. Ashwani Kumar, Jaipur

Besides these the President constituted a three-member committee to evaluate the applications submitted for the award of Woman Scientist and Prof. Y.S. Murty Memorial Gold Medal.

The following have been presented with the medal during inaugural session:

Woman Scientist Medal: Dr. Jyoti Mathur, Banasthali

Prof. Y.S. Murty Memorial Gold Medal: Dr. Ritesh Kumar Choudhary, Pune

The President constituted a three-member committee to screen the applications for woman Botanist and Young Botanist.

Dr. Aparna Pareek (Jaipur) and **Dr Resmi. S.** (Thrissur) have presented their work for the Woman Botanist contest; and **Dr. Manoshree Dilip Mondal** (Mumbai) and **Shravan D.**

Khumbhare for the Young Botanist contest.

6C. Senior Members felicitated: on attaining 60(32), 70(45), 80(20) and 90(11) yrs. They were all invited for the felicitation and those who could attend the conference were felicitated in inaugural session.

7. Thirteen applications were received from life members for the award of fellowship of the society. A three-member committee constituted by the President and the Chief Editor scrutinized these applications and were found eligible as per the rules. Council has approved the following for the award of fellowship (**FBS**):

Prof. Birendra Kumar, Lucknow; **Dr. D.R.More**, Hingoli; **Dr. Juhi Dhillon**, Meerut
Dr. Laxman Nagar, Meerut; **Dr. Mahesh V Kawale**, Gondia; **Dr. M.Shaikul Ashraf**,
Bandipora; **Dr. Naser A Anjum**, Aligarh; **Dr. Navi Ranjan**, Buxor; **Dr. Neha Pandey**,
Prayagraj; **Dr. Sharwan K Srivastava**, Gonda; **Dr. Vijay Vishnu Wagh**, Lucknow;
Prof. Vinod Shimpale, Kolhapur.

8. Venue for holding next (2024) annual conference and meeting of IBS.

Two proposals were received. These were from (i) CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru and , (ii) CCS University, Meerut. After deliberations the Proposal from CCS University was accepted by the EC members unanimously.

Therefore, the Department of Microbiology, CCS University, Meerut shall organize the 47th All India Botanical Conference. The modalities to organize the conference shall be

worked out by the nodal person (Organizing Secretary) Prof. Jitender Singh in consultation with the Secretary and the President.

9. Memorial Lecture Awards: The council approved the following eminent Botanists for delivering the Memorial Lecture Awards:

A. Prof Uma Kant Sinha Memorial Lecture (2024): The name of Prof. Akhilesh K Tyagi, New Delhi was proposed **but he has already received this memorial lecture award in 2002.** Therefore, name of the another eminent botanist is to be suggested and circulated to the EC members.*

B. Prof. G.Panigrahi Memorial Lecture (2024): Prof. D.A.Patil, Dhule will deliver this award lecture during the 47th All India Botanical Conference.

C. Prof. S.N. Chaturvedi Commemoration Lecture (2023): Prof. A.K.Pandey, Pro-Chancellor, Mansarovar Global University, Bhopal will deliver this lecture. As per the provisions, this Award Lecture is to be delivered at a place of choice decided by the Awardee.

* In response to this **Prof. Daizy Rani Batish**, FNASc, Department of Botany, Panjab University, Chandigarh, is approved for **Prof. Umakant Sinha Memorial Lecture Award 2024.**

10. Venue for Rolling Memorial Lectures to be organized at different departments / institutes across India. Following venues are recommended and approved for the three memorial lectures:

A. Prof. Y.S. Murty Memorial Lecture (2024): Kakatiya University, Warangal (Nodal person: Prof. Lakshmana Reddy)

B. Prof. Atul R. Mehta Memorial Lecture (2024): M.S.University, Vadodara (Nodal person: Prof. Vinay M Raole)

C. Prof. C.M. Govil Memorial Lecture (2024): J.N.Vyas University, Jodhpur (Nodal person: Prof. G.S.Shekhawat).

D. IBS Foundation Lecture 2023

It was proposed that the CSIR-CFTRI may hold the IBS Foundation Lecture (2023) to be delivered by an eminent botanist, and Prof. P Giridhar, EC member may be requested to host the event. Prof. P. Giridhar in consultation with the

Director of CFTRI, suggested that Prof. Manoj Kumar Dhar, FNASc, former VC of Jammu University, and the present Director of AcSIR, and and EC member of IBS may be nominated as the IBS Foundation Day Speaker. The same was accepted.

11. New Proposals accepted by EC:

- The 2024 Volume of JIBS may be in the name of Prof. Y.S. Murty in his birth centenary year - final call to be taken by the Chief Editor
- The journal is now completely online, from submission to publication including online allotment of reviewers, their comments and tracking online status, Online First on the website to final allotment of Volume, issue, page number.
- The issue of Indexing of the journal was raised by Prof P.C Trivedi. Prof Y Vimala informed that the journal is now listed in **Web of Science**, as well.
- It is resolved that the Additional expert hands to be given to the Chief Editor for handling of publication of papers from different subject area.
- Appointment of Sectional editor/s for each subject area who will further suggest the subject reviewers.
- The issue of scarcity of active reviewers was raised by the Chief Editor. The EC resolved that at least 15 member editorial panel for each section may be assigned by providing the names of relevant reviewers for quick response.
- Author may be asked to suggest three reviewers, with justification.
- Prof. Manoharachary suggested that the inactive and non responsive Editorial Board members should be removed from the list.
- The issue of discrepancy in the name of the Journal in the e-journal and print version during allotment of ISSN was brought to the light of the house. It was suggested that the name should hence forth be “Journal of the Indian Botanical Society”.
- Prof P.C. Trivedi suggested that the photo gallery on the website be updated.
- It was suggested by Prof P.C. Trivedi that an online Newsletter covering latest news of IBS and its chapters, should be published. The work is assigned to Prof. G.S. Shekhawat of J.N. Vyas University, Jodhpur for assisting the Chief Editor in bringing out the Newsletter of the society activity and updates.

- It was suggested that the library should be shifted from BHU as they do not have space to accommodate. IBS has already entered in MoU for this with CSIR-NBRI. It was unanimously resolved that the Library at BHU should be dissolved as all the old archival issues are digitalized. From next year the letter from the Hon. Librarian would not be required in the EC/EB meeting.
- A letter to be issued by the Secretary to the local chapters. In absence of any response, the non-responding chapter may stand closed.
- Dr. Rajesh Raviya may be asked to start official 'You Tube Channel' of IBS. Good Lectures can be uploaded and money so generated can be deposited in IBS account.
- From next year onwards the felicitation age for senior IBS members would be 60,70,75,80,85,90,95 and 100.
- Dr. Lavania proposed that those life members who are regularly attending All India Botanical Conference be felicitated. A three member committee constituted by the President will work out the modalities to make a beginning by initiating a new category of awards.

- **Initiation of a new category of Awards to recognize AIBC participants**

Following internal discussion among the Senior Botanists, a suggestion was mooted by Prof. PC Trivedi and Prof UC Lavania that the IBS may make provisions to boost participation in AIBC by recognizing senior botanists to appreciate their services, as well as to encourage young participants for enhanced participation. A feeling was expressed that the IBS may develop a mechanism to identify botanists who have participated in a given minimum number of AIBCs (a base threshold limit may be fixed - say 20-25 AIBC participations), combined with their active participation in other IBS activities, including office bearers, lecture / medal awards, hosting the conferences, support to the Society journal, etc.

It was further suggested that the President, IBS may constitute a three-member committee, as done in the past for such matters, to formulate guidelines and develop proforma for application /nomination. The Secretary is asked to proceed for further action in the matter.

12. Medals Awarded during the conference (Contests & Sections):

A. Woman Botanist Award: Dr. Resmi S., Calicut

- B.** Young Botanist Award: Mr. Shravan D. Kumbhare, Nagpur.
- C.** Prof. S.C. Dixit Cash Prize **No Applicant**
- D.** Prof. K.S. Bilgrami Gold Medal (Poster Presentation): Sajitha Menon, Calicut
- E.** Prof. S.N. Dixit Gold Medal (Poster Presentation): **Dr. Ameeta Sharma, Jaipur**
- F.H.** Prof. S.V.S. Chauhan Gold Medal: Monisha Soni, Varanasi
- G.** Merit Certificates/ Medals awarded in Oral / Poster Presentation in eight different sections:

Section	Oral Presentation		Poster Section (Merit Certificate)
	Medal Name	Merit Certificate	
I	Prof. O.P. Mall	NFS	NFS
II	Prof. Zafar Nizam	Vineesha, P. M. Calicut	NFS
III	Prof. Y.S. Murty	Khyati D. Thacker, Vadodara	NFS
IV	Prof. Y.D. Tyagi	Kavi K. Oza, Vadodara	Imtiyaz Ahmad Hurrah, Lucknow
V	Prof. S.N. Chaturvedi	-----	Aniruddha S. Deshpande, Amrawati
VI	Prof. L.P. Mall	NFS	Prerana Das, Kolkata
VII	Prof. C.P. Malik	Kiran Suresh Mawale, Mysuru	-----
VIII	Prof. H.C. Arya	Shiva Krishnan, K., Tiruchirapalli	NFS

13. Any other Matter with the permission of the chair:

- Additional matter taken-up in GB**

There is a provision of conferring Honorary Fellowship of the Society to most distinguished botanists for their outstanding contributions in plant sciences, including meritorious services to the cause of botanical sciences. There is a limit of election of maximum two Honorary Fellows in a given year and overall capping of twenty. Prof. SM Reddy and Prof. PC Trivedi, pointed out that this matter is generally taken-up in the EC, but then the issue could be considered by GB. Following brief discussion, it was suggested that members may suggest names supported with detailed CV by the end of November 2023, for

further consideration by the existing Fellowship screening committee. The Secretary is asked to proceed for further action in the matter.**

**** The decision of the Screening Committee was circulated amongst the EC members and they approved the name of Prof. Hanno Schaefer, W2 Professor of Plant Biodiversity and Head of Herbarium, Technical University of Munich (Germany).**

14. Presidential remarks & Vote of thanks.

The President Prof. N.K.Dubey extended his heartfelt gratitude to Prof. P.C. Trivedi, Dr. U C. Lavania, and the Secretary, IBS, for their unconditional support all through the year with regard to the service of the society. The President and Secretary heartily thanked and acknowledged the contribution and efforts of the local organizing Secretary Prof. Varsha N Nathar and her team for making the XLVI All Indian Botanical Conference a great success. The meeting ended by the members thanking the President and the Secretary of the Society.



December 05, 2023

(Seshu Lavania)

Emailed to EC/EB members on 5.12.2023

Posted on website on 5.12.2023