

INDIAN SOCIETY OF AGROPHYSICS

Minutes of the ISAP National Executive Council Meeting held on Nov 12, 2012, IARI, New Delhi

The meeting of the Executive Council (EC) of The Indian Society of Agrophysics (ISAP) was held on 12-Nov-2012 at 11:00 hrs in the Division of Agricultural Physics, IARI, New Delhi. The following members attended the meeting:

Executive Council:

1. Dr A.K. Singh, President
2. Dr Ravender Singh, Vice President
3. Dr (Mrs) U.K. Chopra, Vice President
4. Dr V.K. Sehgal, Secretary
5. Dr (Mrs) Ananta Vashisth, Treasurer
6. Dr Sanatan Pradhan, Astd. Secretary
7. Dr A.V. Moharir, Editor-in-Chief, JAP
8. Dr D.K. Das, Ex-officio member

Dr S.S. Ray, Jt. Secretary could not attend as he was out of country on official tour.

Agenda Item 1: Welcome remarks by the President

- Dr. A.K. Singh, President, ISAP chaired the meeting and welcomed all the ISAP EC members. He thanked the Head, Division of Agricultural Physics, IARI for providing the necessary facility to host the EC meeting. In his welcome remarks, the President outlined the need of the EC meeting to take stock of the preparations for the ISAP session in the forthcoming ISRS symposium and other matters of the Society. Members congratulated Dr A.K. Singh on taking over as Vice – Chancellor of Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Gwalior, M.P.

Agenda Item 2: Action taken Report of by Secretary

- Dr V.K. Sehgal, Secretary apprised the EC about the progress made by the Society since the last meeting held on 18-May-2012 and updated them on the action taken.
- The membership of the Society increased from 108 life members (LM) and 15 annual members (AM) to 125 LM and 30 AM in 2012-13. About 13 AM of last year also renewed their annual membership for the current financial year. The total membership of the Society stood at 170 (125 LM, 45 AM) on the day.
- The society has a fully functional website on which all the documents, announcements and other matters are regularly posted. Till date, the Society website had 4432 hits from 1-May-2011. The contents of Vo1. 12 Issue 1 of Journal of Agricultural Physics (JAP) was also posted on website and mailer sent to all members.
- One popular lecture was organized by the Society during this period which was delivered by Dr Ajit Govind of INRA, France on 31-July-2012.

- Membership fee of the Society for different categories has been revised since 1-Sept-2012. President ISAP suggested that a post-facto approval of the enhanced fee shall be taken in the General Body Meeting of the Society.
- No progress was achieved on conducting the fourth Dr B.P. Ghildiyal Memorial Lecture. It was suggested that it may be held during the Seminar/Workshop next year by the ISAP along with the AGB meeting. A suggestion was made that the Seminar along with AGM may be held in Gwalior.
- The Vol 12 Issue 1 of the Journal of Agril. Physics was brought out in time. The cover page was revised and quality of paper has improved. EC appreciated the efforts of the Editorial team in improving the getup of the Journal.
- The Guidelines for Authors has also been revised to include (a) only softcopy submission, (b) Mandatory for First author to be member of the ISAP, (c) Rs 1000/- per page color printing charge, (d) non-members can publish by paying charge of Rs 100/- per page. The revised Guidelines were published in the Vol 12 Issue 1 of JAP as well as uploaded on the Society website.

Following decisions were taken with regard to Journal of Agricultural Physics (JAP):

- The application form for financial support from ICAR for the publication of Journal had not been applied for. It was suggested that the grant shall be sought after publications of Vol 12 Issue 2 of the Journal and after getting revised NAAS rating. (*Action: Secretary*)
- EC decided that about 250 copies (members + 50 extra copies) of the Journal shall be printed and sent to ICAR institutes dealing with NRM and some SAUs along with proforma invoice for seeking Library / Institutional membership. (*Action: Secretary*)
- It was suggested that a copy of every issue of the Journal shall be sent to the ICAR library and NAAS library. (*Action: Secretary*)
- EC decided that sale price of individual Journal issue shall be Rs 600/-. The booksellers could be given a discount of 20% on the sale price.
- The Secretary informed that a letter has been received from DKMA, ICAR which is providing for e-publishing of Research Journals on ICAR website under Creative Commons as Open Access. The e-publishing will provide for hosting Journal contents and software for on-line processing of the Journal. EC approved e-publishing of the Journal of Agril. Physics on ICAR website with deferred Open Access. Editor shall complete the formality for the e-publishing. The possibility of hosting of the JAP with indianjournals.com was deferred. (*Action: Secretary*)
- The Editor tried for indexing of JAP with Scopus Indexing Service but the request was turned down for want of “recognized publication ethics and malpractice statement” of the Journal. EC decided that such a statement shall be prepared for the Journal and hosted on the Journal website. Indexing with Scopus shall be tried again after completing the necessary formalities. (*Action: Secretary*)
- EC also decided that a copyright transfer form shall be prepared and authors should explicitly transfer the copyright of submitted Journal papers to the Society. (*Action: Secretary*)

- There is a need to reconstitute the Editorial Board of the JAP but it was decided to let the new EC decide it.

Agenda Item 3: Report of the Treasurer

- Dr Ananta Vashisth, Treasurer gave a brief account of the finances of the society.
- She informed that audit for the financial year 2011-12 has been completed and placed a copy of audit report before the EC. The audit was carried by CA M/S Anil Bhatla & Co. located in East Patel Nagar.
- She gave a statement of income and expenditure that had occurred between 18-May-2012 and 12-Nov-2012 by the ISAP.
- She informed that tax liability of the Society for the financial year 2011-12 (IT year 2012-13) calculated by the CA comes out to be Rs 34080/-. EC decided to hold payment of IT and directed treasurer to enquire with CA and other societies to get exemption for paying income tax as ISAP is a not-for-profit scientific society. (*Action: Treasurer*)
- During 2011-12, the Syndicate bank deducted Rs 7355/- as tax at source. Treasurer informed that form 15A has been filed with Syndicate Bank to prevent deduction of income tax at source in future.
- EC suggested to put money lying in S/B account in the a six month fixed deposit account with the bank after taking care of the likely expenditure on the printing of forthcoming issue of Journal and other sundry expenses. (*Action: Treasurer*)
- EC approved continuation of M/S Anil Bhatla & Co., CAs for conducting financial audit of the Society for the year 2012-13. (*Action: Treasurer*)

Agenda Item 4: Admission of New members of Society

- EC approved the admission of 17 life and 15 annual members to the Society. With these inductions, the membership of Society has increased to 125 life and 45 annual members.

Agenda Item 5: Holding of Elections for the New Executive 2012-14

- The Secretary informed the EC that election process could not be started on 28-May-2012 as was decided in the last EC meeting due to lack of action from the designated Returning Officer. The house was informed that after repeated requests, the Election process could be initiated only on 20-Oct-2012. He further stated that Returning Officer had sent out the notice of the cancellation of Elections without informing the Secretary.
- President expressed displeasure that Returning Officer did not inform him or Secretary before sending out the notice of cancellation. He also noted that the Secretary should have avoided sending mail to all members but instead should have approached EC. Secretary clarified that he informed and consulted President before sending out the mail and was pained at the developments that had taken place.

- The Secretary put before the EC the two representations received from Dr Ravender Singh and Dr U.K. Chopra in respect of Elections. The objections raised by the two were discussed in detail.
- EC concluded that the constitution is clear that Chief-Editor is part of EC but is nominated and not elected. So no nomination for election to the post of Chief Editor will be sought and corresponding corrections were suggested to be made in the constitution to avoid any confusion in future.
- The two Vice-Presidents will be elected this time and out of two, one will retain the post by the draw of lot at the end of first year so that one Vice-President could be elected each year as enshrined in constitution.
- As the society is still small, EC found it futile to go for elections of ten Councillors. EC decided not to hold elections for the posts of Councillors this time.
- EC decided that the ongoing process of Elections to the ISAP EC for term 2012-14 stands postponed but not cancelled. The election process will be restarted by mid-December. *(Action: Secretary)*
- All the society members existing as on 31-Dec-2012 will be eligible for nomination and casting of vote. The list of members will be circulated along with the notice of election. *(Action: Secretary)*
- EC decided to approach Dr R.K. Rattan, IARI first for acting as the Returning Officer. In case of his non-acceptance, Dr Man Singh, IARI shall be approached to act as Returning Officer. *(Action: Secretary)*
- EC decided that all the 13 nominations received earlier for various posts shall remain valid for contesting elections unless the candidates withdraw their nomination. They need not fill the nomination form again.
- Dr A.K. Jain, designated Returning Officer will submit all nomination forms received in original to Secretary, so that those nominations are considered in the restarted Election process. *(Action: Dr A.K. Jain)*

Agenda Item 6: ISAP Session in ISRS national symposium

- EC took stock of the preparation for the ISAP session in the forthcoming ISRS Symposium to be held from 5-7 Dec, 2012 and decided the following:
 - Dr Ravender Singh, VP, ISAP will be having the main responsibility of organizing the ISAP session *(Action: Dr Ravender Singh)*
 - A compilation of research work done in the Discipline of Agricultural Physics will be brought out and released in the Symposium.
 - The session would be of 3 hours duration and may start with a 20 min presentation on the progress made in Agricultural Physics by Head, Division Agricultural Physics.

- It may be followed by talk/presentations of the state-of-art in the different sub-disciplines of Agricultural Physics. The suggested speakers and subdisciplines will be:
 - Dr A.K. Singh – Natural Resource Management
 - Dr A.V. Moharir – Biophysics
 - Dr N.V.K. Chakravarty – Agrometeorology
 - Dr M.V. Sessa Sai – Remote Sensing

- Talks could be followed by open house discussion to seek views of the participants. Some of the papers received for the ISRS Symposium and pertinent to the discipline of Agricultural Physics may be included for presentation in this session.

Agenda Item 7: Any Other Point

- EC constituted a Committee to look into any ambiguity/discrepancies or need to modify the Constitution of the Society for its smooth functioning. The Committee will be composed of the following members.
 - Dr D.K. Das, Chairman
 - Dr U.K. Chopra, Member
 - Dr R. Singh, Member
 - Dr V.K. Sehgal, Member Secretary

They will submit their report to the EC before the next AGM meeting.

Secretary, ISAP thanked all EC members for attending the meeting and providing valuable inputs/suggestions.

Approved by

Sd/-
29-Nov-2012
(President, ISAP)

Prepared by

Sd/-
29-Nov-2012
(Secretary, ISAP)

To,

All members of EC

Copy: Record file