

## **Indian Academy of Neurosciences**

### **Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on October 18, 2016 at National Brain Research Centre, Manesar on October 18, 2016**

The meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held on October 18, 2016 in the meeting room at National Brain research Centre (NBRC), Manesar. Dr Subrata Sinha, President, IAN presided over the meeting and following members were present,

1. Dr Ashok K. Agrawal, Lucknow
2. Dr Mahendra K. Thakur, Varanasi
3. Dr (Ms). Manorama Patri, Cuttack
4. Dr Laxmi T. Rao, Bengaluru
5. Dr Subrata Sinha, Manesar
6. Dr Prahlad K. Seth, Lucknow
7. Dr Shyam Diwakar, Cochin
8. Dr Rajat Sandhir, Chandigarh
9. Dr (Ms). Devika Nag, Lucknow – Special Invitee
10. Dr Vinay K. Khanna, Lucknow
11. Dr Pankaj Seth, Manesar

Dr Sinha extended a warm welcome to the members and the meeting proceeded as per agenda.

1. The minutes of the last EC meeting held on October 31, 2015 at Panjab University, Chandigarh were confirmed by the members unanimously.
2. The EC members were apprised of the recommendation of the Search Committee for Professor BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration by Dr Vinay Kumar Khanna, Secretary HQ. He informed the members that the concurrence of the EC members on the recommendation of the Search Committee that Professor BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2016 be conferred on Dr (Ms) M. Gourie Devi (Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi) and Dr (Ms) Vidita Vaidya (TIFR, Mumbai) respectively was already obtained and approved by the EC members unanimously. As Dr (Ms) M. Gourie Devi was not able to attend the IAN conference at NBRC, Manesar being out of country, it was suggested that she may deliver the lecture and the award be presented to her under the auspices of IAN local chapter at a suitable date convenient to her. Dr Pankaj Seth, the General Secretary was requested to organize.

Dr Khanna further informed that nominations of following four members received for the election of Fellows of IAN were considered,

- i. Dr (Ms). Sudha Mahajan Cowsik, JNU, New Delhi (LC-40)
- ii. Dr (Ms). Swapna Chaudhuri, School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkata (LC-24)
- iii. Dr S Prasad, BHU, Varanasi (LP-55)
- iv. Dr Rajat Sandhir, Panjab University, Chadigarh (LS-133)

The Academic Committee assessed all the nominations and recommended that Dr S Prasad, BHU, Varanasi and Dr Rajat Sandhir, Panjab University, Chadigarh be elected Fellow of Indian Academy of Neurosciences. The recommendations of the Search Committee and Academic Committee were approved by the EC.

Soon after this, he apprised the EC members that no nominations were received for BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2017. While the Search Committee was requested to find out suitable persons for these awards, it was suggested that an advertisement inviting nominations for the two awards be brought out in IAN journal and newsletter.

3. The composition of Search Committee for selecting candidates for BK Bachhawat Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2017 and 2018 and Academic Committee for electing Fellows for the year 2017 was discussed. The EC approved following names for the Search committee and Academic committee -

**Search Committee for BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration (2016 and 2017)**

Ex-officio members – Dean, President, General Secretary, Secretary HQ, Editor.

Fellows – Dr (Ms) Devika Nag, Lucknow; Dr Raghu Vemuganti, USA.

**Academic Committee**

(Ex-officio members – Dean, President, General Secretary, Secretary HQ,

Fellows – Dr M.K. Thakur, Varanasi; Dr. PK Seth, Lucknow; Dr. T.R. Raju, Bengaluru.

4. The EC was informed that following six papers were received for consideration for Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize for the year 2016 -

- i. **Arun Anirudhan**; Cellular Neurophysiology Laboratory; Molecular Biophysics Unit; Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru – 560 012, India  
The Journal of Neuroscience 35: 4691 – 4705 (2015); Impact Factor – 5.90
- ii. **Prem Chand**; National Brain Research Centre; Manesar – 122 051, Haryana, India  
The Journal of Neuroscience 35: 13475 – 13486 (2015); Impact Factor – 5.90
- iii. **Rachana Mishra**; Medical Biotechnology Laboratory; Department of Biotechnology; Guru Nanak Dev University; Amritsar– 143 005, India  
Scientific Reports 6: 255564 (2016); Impact Factor – 5.228
- iv. **Saborni Roy**; Department of Physiology; All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi – 110 029, India  
Brain Research Bulletin 109: 99 – 108 (2014); Impact Factor – 2.572
- v. **Shaffi Manchanda**; Medical Biotechnology Laboratory; Department of Biotechnology; Guru Nanak Dev University; Amritsar – 143 005, Punjab, India  
Molecular Neurobiology DOI 10.1007/s12035-016-9883-5; Impact Factor – 5.397
- vi. **Yasir Hasan Siddique**; Drosophila Transgenic Laboratory; Section of Genetics, Department of Zoology; Faculty of Life Sciences, AMU; Aligarh – 202 002, India  
Parkinson's Disease Volume 2014, Article ID 262058, 11 pages  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2014/262058>; Impact Factor – 1.722

These papers were reviewed by the following committee constituted by the Dean, IAN -

Dr. Raghu Vemuganti, University of Wisconsin, USA; Dr (Ms) Shashi Bala Singh, DIPAS, New Delhi; Dr (Ms). Raj D. Mehra, HIMSR, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi; Dr BSS Rao, NIMHANS, Bengaluru; Dr M.K. Thakur, BHU, Varanasi.

Based on the scores received from the Reviewers, average was calculated and paper published in The Journal of Neuroscience 35: 13475 – 13486 (2015) by Prem Chand was selected for the award. The recommendation of the Reviewers was approved by the EC.

Further, the EC also approved to provide travel fellowships [Lalita – Ravindra Nath Travel Fellowship (4); IAN Travel Fellowship (4). The EC was further informed that there was no application for John Miller Travel Award this time.

5. The following panel of judges was approved by the EC to adjudge papers presented in the Award Session for the year 2016 during the XXXIV annual meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences.

Panel to adjudge papers presented in oral session (Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award / D. M. Kar Prize)

Dr S. Sinha, Manesar; Dr N.R. Jana, Manesar; Dr (Ms). C Kaur, Singapore; Dr (Ms). G. Kaur, Amritsar; Dr P. Seth, Manesar

As the papers presented in Poster Session were categorized, the members suggested to induct reviewers / judges in respective categories.

Dr U.C. Srivastava, Allahabad; Dr S. Mehta, UoW, USA; Dr S. Kaul, Japan; Dr S.P. Arun, Bengaluru; Dr G. Hasan, Bengaluru; Dr Vidita Vaidya, Mumbai; Dr Suman Jain, New Delhi; Dr Aditya Murthy, Bengaluru; Dr A.K. Agrawal, Lucknow; Dr Rakesh Shukla, Lucknow; Dr A. Chauhan, USA; Dr S.K. Trigun, Varanasi

Further, the proposal / request of Dr (Ms) Nandini C Singh to select the best paper presented in a separate oral session for AMIRAB Award in the memory of her late parents was approved by the members and following panel was constituted,

Dr (Ms) Nandini C Singh, Manesar; Dr Nihar R. Jana, Manesar; Dr (Ms) Soumya Iyengar, Manesar; Dr Ranjit Giri, Manesar

The General Secretary further informed that the AMIRAB award is only for this year.

The EC also suggested that distinguished delegates from India and abroad be invited to judge the best papers presented in Poster Session incase required. Dr. Pankaj Seth, General Secretary and Dr Ranjit Giri, Manesar were entrusted with the responsibility to select and coordinate with the judges to adjudge the papers.

6. The statement of accounts duly audited by the Chartered Accountant was presented by Dr A.K. Agrawal, Treasurer, Indian Academy of Neurosciences. While presenting the brief report, he also informed about the induction of new Life and Associate Members during the year. The EC expressed satisfaction and was happy to note that the financial status of the Academy is good.

7. As Dr Akshay Anand was not able to attend the meeting, the Editor's report could not be presented. While the members appreciated the efforts of the Editor to bring out the issues of the IAN journal Annals of Neurosciences, it was impressed to improve the quality of journal by including more articles on original research. It was further discussed that the Editor may be requested to start the submission of articles online and bring out the issues on time.
8. Request of Dr Sunil Kaul, AIST, Tsukuba to create local branch of IAN at Japan was considered and approved by the members as per Rules and Byelaws.
9. Proposal for organizing the XXXV annual conference of IAN in 2017 was discussed. The members were informed about two proposal received to hold the conference from Dr (Ms) Manorma Patri at Ravenshaw University, Cuttack and Dr (Ms) Suman Jain at AIIMS, New Delhi. The members discussed at both the proposals and recommended that the conference may be organized at Ravenshaw University, Cuttack. Dr (Ms) Manorma Patri present in the meeting was requested to organize the meeting in October 2017 to avoid overlap with other conferences and have maximum participation of neuroscientists from India and abroad. Further, proposal of Dr Shukla Prasad, Professor, Department of Zoology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi to host the XXXVI annual conference of IAN in 2018 was also discussed. The EC recommended to hold the IAN conference in Varanasi in 2018.
10. Based on the suggestions for the posts to be filled up, the Executive Committee for 2016 - 2017 was proposed as mentioned in Annexure – I. It was further suggested that proposed EC be placed before the General Body for approval.

**Any other matter -**

1. Dr Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ presented details of activities undertaken for IAN – IBRO Global Advocacy Programme at Lucknow. He informed that Panel Discussion joined by leading neurologists, psychiatrists and neuroscientists of the city and interactive meet with cross section of society were organized on September 2 and 28, 2016. The EC members appreciate the efforts in all sincerity.
2. Amendment in the guidelines of KT Shetty Memorial Oration was discussed by the EC members. The members recommended that the applicant should not be above 55 years on the date of the conference / calendar year of the conference. It was further suggested that proposed amendment be placed before the General Body for approval.

3. Increase in the amount of cash prize to INR 5,000/- from INR 1,000/- for Jyotsnamoyee – Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize was discussed. The Treasurer informed that the award was instituted by Late Dr S.K. Bhattacharya in the memory of his late parents after donating INR 20,000/-. The medal and cash prize are given out of the interest of that amount. The EC approved that amount of cash money be increased and amount from IAN be added incase required.
4. Request of the Organizing Secretary Dr Pankaj Seth to increase number of prizes in the poster session as Best Paper Award from Organizers (up to 18) and 1 Award for Platform presentation out of 5 selected posters was considered. The members approved the proposal.
5. The proposal to institute an award by Dr (Ms) Devika Nag in the memory of her late mother Smt Sutti Nag was discussed. Dr Nag had donated INR 1.00 lakh and expressed her desire to institute an award for 1-2 papers presented in the oral or poster sessions out of the interest from the corpus. The EC accepted the proposal and thanked Dr Nag for the gesture. It was further suggested that the proposal be placed before the General Body for approval. The Secretary HQ and General Secretary were requested to decide the modalities.
6. The members expressed their concern to strengthen local branches and suggested that scientific activities under the auspices of local branches of IAN be organized. It was further suggested that IAN Delhi branch be renamed as IAN NCR branch and IAN members of NCR region be included.
7. The matter of payment of dues towards affiliation fee of FAONS and IBRO was discussed. The EC approved that payments be made to continue affiliation of IAN with FAONS and IBRO.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

## Executive Committee - 2017

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|--|-------------|
| <b>President</b>                       |             |
| Dr S. Sinha<br>Manesar                 | 2015-2017   |
| <b>Vice Presidents</b>                 |             |
| Dr SC Pandey<br>Chicago, USA           | 2016 - 2018 |
| Dr (Ms) G Kaur<br>Amritsar             | 2017 – 2019 |
| <b>Dean</b>                            |             |
| Dr (Ms) SB Singh<br>New Delhi          | 2015 - 2017 |
| <b>General Secretary</b>               |             |
| Dr P Seth<br>Manesar                   | 2017 - 2019 |
| <b>Secretary HQ</b>                    |             |
| Dr VK Khanna<br>Lucknow                | 2016 -2018  |
| <b>Secretary International Affairs</b> |             |
| Dr Dipak Sarkar<br>Rutgers, USA        | 2016 - 2018 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                       |             |
| Dr AK Agrawal<br>Lucknow               | 2017 - 2019 |
| <b>Chief Editor</b>                    |             |
| Dr A Anand<br>Chandigarh               | 2015 - 2017 |

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|---|-------------|
| <b>Members</b>                          |             |
| Dr (Ms) M Patri<br>Cuttack              | 2015 - 2017 |
| Dr S Diwakar<br>Coimbatore              | 2015 - 2017 |
| Dr (Ms) Laxmi T. Rao<br>Bangalore       | 2016 - 2018 |
| Dr (Ms) M Rajadhyaksha<br>Mumbai        | 2016 - 2018 |
| Dr TK Ghosh<br>Kolkata                  | 2017 - 2019 |
| Dr (Ms) S Jain<br>New Delhi             | 2017 - 2019 |
| <b>IBRO and FAONS Representative</b>    |             |
| Dr PK Seth<br>Lucknow                   |             |
| <b>Immediate Past President</b>         |             |
| Dr MK Thakur<br>Varanasi                |             |
| <b>Immediate Past General Secretary</b> |             |
| Dr M.K. Thakur<br>Varanasi              |             |