

Indian Academy of Neurosciences
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held via Video Conferencing
on Thursday; June 25, 2020

The meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held via video conferencing. The members were connected through Google meet. The meeting chaired by Dr (Ms) Shashi Bala Singh, President of the Academy was attended by following members,

1. Dr AK Agrawal, Lucknow
2. Dr Akshay Anand, Chandigarh
3. Dr (Ms). Anita Jagota, Hyderabad
4. Dr Aurnab Ghosh, Pune
5. Dr BSS Rao, Bengaluru
6. Dr Jaysri das Sarma, Kolkata
7. Dr Kamla Prasad Mishra, Delhi
8. Dr (Ms). Kamlesh K. Gulia, Thiruvananthapuram
9. Dr Mahendra K. Thakur, Varanasi
10. Dr Pankaj Seth, Manesar
11. Dr Prahlad K. Seth, Lucknow
12. Dr Raghu Vemuganti, USA
13. Dr Ramesh Sharma, Shillong
14. Dr Subrata Sinha, New Delhi
15. Dr (Ms). Suman Jain, New Delhi
16. Dr Sunil Kaul, Japan
17. Dr Vinay K. Khanna, Lucknow

Dr (Ms) Shashi Bala Singh, President, IAN extended a warm welcome to the members and thanked them for sparing time to join for the meeting. She said that due to pandemic, it may not be possible to hold the annual meeting of IAN in a traditional way. However, the meeting may be organized via video conferencing to avoid gap and thus the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the format of the annual meeting of IAN and have suggestions of the members to develop the programme. The members discussed on the proposal and following decisions were taken,

1. The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi on Monday; November 18, 2019 were circulated among members. The Secretary HQ informed that no comments were received. The minutes were approved by the EC.
2. In view of the international and domestic travel restrictions as well as for the safety of the attendees, holding the E-annual meeting was considered to be the best option and the proposal was unanimously approved by the EC.

3. Dr (Ms) Anita Jagota, the designated Organizing Secretary of the XXXVIII annual meeting agreed to hold the E-meeting. She said that one extra day for holding the meeting will help to run the programme smoothly and thus the annual meeting may be organized from October 4 – 7, 2020. Due to difference in the time zones with the IST, she said that the timing of the conference may be from 4 PM to 11 PM (IST) to accommodate larger participation of neuroscientists from outside India. The members suggested her to keep flexibility in the timings to accommodate more people from other continents. Dr (Ms) Jagota said that a nominal Registration fee INR 700/- will be charged from the participants to take stock of the actual number of attendees to sort out the logistics. Dr (Ms) Jagota further requested Dr (Ms) Shashi Bala Singh, the President IAN to join hands in the organization of the event as she is also the Director, NIPER, Hyderabad. Dr (Ms) Singh accepted the request and agreed to render all possible help for the organization of the annual meeting of IAN.
4. The Organizing Secretary apprised the members about the structure of the scientific programme in brief. The members appreciated her efforts and suggested to invite proposals for holding the symposia / sessions in the niche areas to develop an effective scientific programme for the annual meeting. As the number of participants may be more, the EC further suggested the Organizing Secretary to select and use appropriate platform to avoid any problem in the connectivity.
5. Dr PK Seth, IAN representative to IBRO and FAONS suggested that the organizers should try to invite established neuroscientists from IBRO and FAONS committees as speakers. As this will be an E-meeting, he further suggested to invite Noble Laureates. It is difficult to have their participation usually due to their availability and travel costs. The members said that the idea is good and should be sincerely pursued by the organizing secretary.
6. The members were happy to note the willingness of Dr IK Patro, Vice Chancellor, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha to hold the E-Post-Satellite Symposium on Neurodegeneration and Neuroprotection : Advances and Challenges from October 9 - 10, 2020 at Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha and approved the proposal.
7. Dr Akshay Anand, the Editor informed that the transition due to change in the publisher was over and the portal with the SAGE is ready. He said that pending issues of the journal – Annals of Neurosciences will be brought out soon. He further requested the members to contribute original papers and reviews to the journal for publication. The EC appreciated his efforts and suggested him to hold the meeting of the members of the Editorial Board online and discuss for improving the contents and thus to attract more submissions of the manuscripts.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Indian Academy of Neurosciences
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held via Video Conferencing
on Saturday; October 3, 2020

The members of the Executive Committee (EC) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) were connected through Zoom meet and the meeting was held on-line. The meeting chaired by Dr (Ms) Shashi Bala Singh, President of the Academy was attended by following members,

1. Dr AK Agrawal, Lucknow
2. Dr Akshay Anand, Chandigarh
3. Dr (Ms). Anita Jagota, Hyderabad
4. Dr Aurnab Ghose, Pune
5. Dr BSS Rao, Bengaluru
6. Dr Jaysri Das Sarma, Kolkata
7. Dr Kamla Prasad Mishra, Delhi
8. Dr (Ms). Kamlesh K. Gulia, Thiruvananthapuram
9. Dr Mahendra K. Thakur, Varanasi
10. Dr Pankaj Seth, Manesar
11. Dr Prahlad K. Seth, Lucknow
12. Dr Raghu Vemuganti, USA
13. Dr Ramesh Sharma, Shillong
14. Dr Subrata Sinha, New Delhi
15. Dr (Ms). Suman Jain, New Delhi
16. Dr Sunil Kaul, Japan
17. Dr Vinay K. Khanna, Lucknow

Dr (Ms) Shashi Bala Singh welcomed the members and thanked them for connecting to attend the meeting on-line. The meeting proceeded as per the agenda,

1. The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on Thursday; June 25, 2020 on-line were circulated among members. The Secretary HQ informed that no comments were received. The minutes were approved by the EC.
2. The Secretary HQ informed that the concurrence of the EC members on the recommendation of the Search Committee that BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award for 2020 be conferred on Dr (Ms) Gurcharan Kaur (Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar) and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2019 and 2020 be conferred on Dr Anirban Basu (NBRC, Manesar) and Dr MM Srinivas Bharath (NIMHANS, Bengaluru) respectively was obtained. The members granted the approval of the same. He said that nominations for BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2021 and 2022 will be invited and processed to select suitable candidates.

The Secretary HQ further informed that nominations of following four members received for the election of Fellows of IAN were considered by the Academic Committee,

- i. Dr Sunit K. Singh, BHU, Varanasi (LS-245)

- ii. Dr Akshay Anand, PGIMER, Chandigarh (LA-41)
- iii. Dr (Ms) Laxmi T. Rao, NIMHANS, Bengaluru(LR-49)
- iv. Dr Ranil De Silva, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Srilanka (LD-26)

The recommendations of the Academic Committee that all the four candidates be elected Fellows of Indian Academy of Neurosciences were approved by the EC.

The EC also approved that Dr Pawan Sinha (Department of Brain and Cognitive Science, MIT, Cambridge) be elected as Honorary Fellow.

3. The composition of Search Committee for selecting candidates for BK Bachhawat Memorial Life time Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2021 and 2022 and Academic Committee for electing Fellows for the year 2021 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

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

Fellows – Dr US Bhalla, Bengaluru; Dr SC Pandey, Chicago, USA

Academic Committee

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

Fellows – Dr Maheep Bhatnagar, Udaipur; Dr Gurcharan Kaur Amritsar; Dr AB Pant, Lucknow

4. The EC was informed that following five papers were received for consideration for Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize for the year 2020,
 - (i) Yogita K. Adlakha, Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar – 122 052, India.
Stem Cells (2020); 38:683–697; DOI: 10.1002/stem.3155
 - (ii) Shrstha Sinha, School of Studies in Neuroscience, Jiwaji University, Gwalior – 474 011, India
Brain, Behavior, and Immunity 85 (2020) 69–87;
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bbi.2019.08.181>
 - (iii) Debanjana Chakravarty, Department of Biological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata, Mohanpur, Nadia – 741 246, India
Journal of Virology (2020) 94 (Issue 14); <https://doi.org/10.1128/JVI.00548-20>
 - (iv) Asra Nasir Khan, Interdisciplinary Biotechnology Unit, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh – 202 002, India
Journal of Molecular Liquids 285 (2019) 27–37;
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molliq.2019.04.059>

- (v) Suriya Prakash Muthukrishnan, Department of Physiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi – 110029, India
Brain Topography (2020) 33:75-85; <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10548-019-00739-3>

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

- (i) Dr Ramesh Sharma, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, North-Eastern Hill University Shillong - 793 022, India
- (ii) Dr (Ms). Kamlesh K. Gulia, Scientist F & In-charge, Division of Sleep Research, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology, Thiruvananthapuram – 695012, India
- (iii) Dr Laxmi T. Rao, Professor of Neurophysiology, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences, Bengaluru - 560 029, India
- (iv) Dr Akshay Anand, Professor, Neuroscience Research Lab, Department of Neurology
Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh - 160 012, India
- (v) Dr S. Prasad, Professor, Department of Zoology, Banaras Hindu University Varanasi – 221 005, India

He further informed that the paper of Shrstha Sinha, School of Studies in Neuroscience, Jiwaji University, Gwalior – 474 011, India published in Brain, Behavior, and Immunity received highest scores from the Reviewers and should be considered for the award. The EC unanimously approved the recommendation.

He further informed that in view of online meeting, the travel awards/fellowships – Lalita-Ravindra Nath Travel Fellowship (4); IAN Travel Fellowship (4); John Miller Travel Award (2) have not been provided. Further, there were no applications for Lalita – Ravindra Nath International Travel Fellowship (2) in view of pandemic. The EC suggested that the number of travel fellowships may be increased in the next annual conference and the money for these travel fellowships utilized appropriately.

5. The EC approved following members in the panel to adjudge papers presented in the Award Session during the XXXVIII annual meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences.

For Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award / D. M. Kar Prize

Dr (Ms). Shashi B. Singh (NIPER-Hyderabad, Hyderabad); Dr Mahendra K.Thakur (BHU, Varanasi); Dr Pankaj Seth (NBRC, Manesar); Dr (Ms). Suman Jain (AIIMS, New Delhi); Dr (Ms). Gurcharan Kaur (GNDU, Amritsar)

Following members were inducted in the panel to adjudge papers presented in the poster session,

Dr S. Prasad (BHU, Varanasi); Dr Vijay Paramanik (IGNTU, Amarkantak); Dr Sunil Hota (DRDO, New Delhi); Dr Rajesh S.Yadav (Dr. HS Gour Central University, Sagar)

Dr Surendra K. Trigun (BHU, Varanasi); Dr (Ms). Prachi Srivastava (Amity University, Lucknow Campus, Lucknow); Dr (Ms). Arpita Konar (CSIR-IGIB, New Delhi); Dr KP Mishra (DRDO, New Delhi); Dr Aurnab Ghose (IISER, Pune).

6. The statement of accounts duly audited by the Chartered Accountant was presented by Dr AK Agrawal, the Treasurer of Indian Academy of Neurosciences. He provided details of income and expenditures incurred and informed about the induction of new Life and Associate Members during the year. Dr Agrawal informed that payment of dues towards affiliation fee to IBRO has been paid upto 2020 and to FAONS upto 2019. He further informed that the request of members of Gargi College, New Delhi to sponsor awards by IAN to the young students participating in International E-conference NeuroEunoia 2020: A Neuroscience Affair was considered and a token amount of INR 10,000/- was provided. The EC was happy to note that the financial status of the Academy is good and appreciated his efforts.
7. Dr. Akshay Anand presented the current status of Annals of Neurosciences, the official journal of the academy. He informed the members that there has been a considerable increase in the number of submissions to the journal from various countries, perhaps due to global visibility of the journal through SAGE, the new publisher with which the academy has entered into agreement for publishing the journal. The members were informed that first round of royalty is expected to be credited to the academy as per the agreement with the journal. The members emphasized that the editorial board should focus on the overall quality of accepted articles by the journal and gradually try to reduce the time taken from submission to decision on the manuscripts submitted to the journal. The members also expressed the concern about the long-awaited impact factor for the journal. The Editor in Chief, Dr. Anand assured the members that hopefully the journal will soon get an impact factor. Dr. Anand also urged the members to submit their original articles to the journal.
8. The members were informed about two proposals received to hold the IAN conference in 2021 from Dr (Ms) Jayasri Das Sarma, IISER, Kolkata and Dr Mehdi Hayat Shahi, IBRC, Aligarh. The members discussed both the proposals and recommended that the IAN conference in 2021 may be organized by Dr (Ms) Jayasri Das Sarma at IISER, Kolkata.
9. The Secretary HQ informed about the academic activities undertaken under the auspices of IAN local chapters at Kolkata, Lucknow, Varanasi, Aligarh, Bengaluru and NCR. The EC appreciated the efforts of the local chapters and suggested to plan more activities at a regular interval involving young neuroscientists. It was further discussed that besides academic activities, public / popular lectures should also be organized under the IAN – IBRO Global Advocacy programme by the local chapters. A plan of activities to be undertaken may be submitted to the Secretary HQ incase any support is required from IAN. The proposals received will be reviewed by a committee and support grant upto INR 25,000/- will be released in the accounts of IAN local chapters.

10. Based on the suggestions for the posts to be filled up, the Executive Committee for 2021 was proposed as mentioned in Annexure – I. It was further suggested that proposed EC may be placed before the General Body for approval.

Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

1. The proposal to increase prize amount of BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award from INR 10,000/- to INR 20,000/- was discussed by the Treasurer. The EC suggested that before taking a decision, the award / prize money under the banner of IAN should be reviewed. A committee with following members has been constituted,

President, Dean, Secretary HQ, General Secretary, Treasurer, Dr Subrata Sinha

The committee will review the amount of endowments with the IAN and award/prize given out of interest to the awardees before taking a decision.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Indian Academy of Neurosciences

Executive Committee - 2021

President			Members		
Dr Ishan K. Patro	2021 - 2023		Dr BSS Rao	2019 - 2021	
Cuttack			Bangalore		
Vice Presidents			Dr KP Mishra	2019 - 2021	
Dr R Vemuganti	2019 - 2021		New Delhi		
Madison, USA			Dr (Ms) Jayasri D Sarma	2020 - 2022	
Dr (Ms) S Jain	2020 - 2022		Kolkata		
New Delhi			Dr Aurnab Ghose	2020 - 2022	
Dean			Pune		
Dr TR Raju	2021 - 2023		Dr (Ms). Meenakshi Bawari	2021 - 2023	
Bengaluru			Silchar		
General Secretary			Dr (Ms). Anita Jagota	2021 - 2023	
Dr Pankaj Seth	2020 - 2022		Hyderabad		
Manesar			IBRO and FAONS Representative		
Secretary HQ			Dr Prahlad K. Seth		
Dr Vinay K. Khanna	2019 - 2021		Lucknow		
Lucknow			Immediate Past President		
Secretary International Affairs			Dr (Ms) Shashi Bala Singh		
Dr Sunil Kaul	2019 - 2021		Hyderabad		
Tsukuba, Japan			Immediate Past General Secretary		
Treasurer			Dr Mahendra K. Thakur		
Dr Ashok K. Agrawal	2020 - 2022		Varanasi		
Lucknow					
Chief Editor					
Dr Akshay Anand	20201 - 2023				
Chandigarh					