

Indian Academy of Neurosciences

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held online

Friday; September 15, 2023; 16:00 hrs (IST)

The meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held online. The members were connected through Google meet. The meeting chaired by IK Patro, President of the Academy was attended by following members,

Dr Akshay Anand

Dr Amit Mishra

Dr Anirban Basu

Dr AK Agrawal

Dr Renu Wadhwa

Dr Suresh L Mehta

Dr Phalguni Anand Alladi

Dr Shashi Bala Singh

Dr SC Biswas

Dr Sudip Paul

Dr TR Raju

Dr IK Patro

Dr Krishna Sony - Invitee

Dr Pankaj Seth

Dr Vinay K. Khanna

Dr Meenakshi Bawari and Dr Anita Jagota could not attend the meeting, due to some prior commitments.

The meeting started with a welcome note by Dr Vinay K Khanna, Secretary Headquarter and Dr Ishan Patro, President IAN. It was then handed over to Dr Pankaj Seth, General Secretary to conduct the meeting. Thereafter, the meeting proceeded as per the agenda listed items.

1. The General Secretary informed that the minutes of the last Executive Committee Meeting held on December 7, 2022 at NEHU, Shillong were circulated among the members and no comments were received. The minutes were approved by the EC.
2. Prof IK Patro apprised the EC members of the over enthusiastic response to the call for proposals and submission of abstracts and registration of delegates for the upcoming meeting at Gwalior. He also brought to the notice of the committee, that there will be pre-conference workshops, a key note lecture, plenary talks, panel discussion, as well as a session on interaction of school children with neuroscientists during the meeting. The scientific program was discussed at length and members appreciated the efforts of Prof Patro for formulating the program and including symposia of scientific excellence.
3. The Secretary HQ informed the EC that the concurrence of the EC members on the recommendation of the Search Committee that BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award for 2023 be conferred on Dr UK Mishra (Director of Neurology, Apollomedics Super Specialty Hospitals, Lucknow, Senior Consultant, Neurology, Vivekanand Polyclinic and Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow) and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2023 be conferred on Dr Suman Jain (Professor, Department of Physiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi). Further, for SS Parmar Oration, nomination of Dr Raghu Vemuganti (Endowed Professor of Cerebrovascular Research, Vice Chair for Basic Research, Department of Neurological Surgery, University of Wisconsin-Madison) and for PN Tandon Oration, nomination of Dr P Sarat Chandra, (Senior Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi) was recommended. The recommendations were approved by the EC.
4. Thereafter, there was a detailed discussion on the proposal to consider that the amount of honorarium for BK Bachhawat Memorial LifeTime Achievement Award and KT Shetty Memorial oration be increased to INR 25,000/- by supplementing INR 15,000/- to the existing amount of INR 10,000/- each, using part of the interest earned from IAN savings. This may be revisited after 3 years. The committee also opined that IAN may also explore the possibility by writing letters to the individuals who started the endowments to increase the corpus amounts as well, so that these awards can be self-sustained in the long run.

In continuation with the discussions for increasing the funds for orations, it was proposed that IAN should also consider to provide seed money to support the annual conferences from its savings. While the idea was supported by few members, the Treasurer Dr Ashok K Agrawal explained that the interest earned by IAN savings are limited to meet the expenses of IAN on awards, orations and secretarial work. As the earnings in IAN are dependent on interest on deposits in the bank which has fluctuation, a commitment to support annual meetings with the seed money from corpus funds may not be possible at this point. Considering the current financial position, and after detailed discussions, it was decided to defer the matter for supporting the annual meetings at this point.

5. The Secretary HQ, apprised the EC members that proposals for funding up to INR 50,000/- each for IAN-IBRO Global Advocacy programs may be invited with an aim to engage with general public, policy makers and politicians to sensitize them towards importance of enhancing funding for brain research. The idea was welcomed by the EC members and approved.
6. Dr Akshay Anand, the Chief Editor shared a welcome development that the journal Annals of Neurosciences (ANS) now has an ISI Impact factor and the submissions to the journal have significantly improved. He said while the rejection rate is high, quality of papers published in the journal has improved. He was quite hopeful that this will improve the citations of the papers published in IAN in future. He also introduced the special invitee Dr Krishan Kumar, who has been helping him to run the journal Annals of Neurosciences (ANS). Dr Anand also apprised the EC members that the IAN partner publishing group SAGE has completed the first 5 years of its association with IAN and entered into the agreement for next 5 years as the IAN-SAGE association has been mutually beneficial for both. The President advised that a supplement issue featuring the accepted abstracts of the research presented during IAN annual meetings should be published. The idea was echoed by the members and after discussions it was decided that Dr Anand along with Dr Pankaj Seth, Dr IK Patro and Dr Vinay K. Khanna will negotiate with SAGE publishers to bring out a supplemental issue every year to align with the annual meeting of IAN.

Following matters were also deliberated with permission of the Chair during the meeting –

- i) The Secretary HQ, expressed his deep condolences on the sad demise of Prof Prahlad K Seth, one of the founders of the IAN, and remembered his guidance and mentorship for the IAN matters. The members also condoled his death and appreciated his contributions.

- ii) The Secretary HQ apprised the members that currently the IAN headquarter stationed at CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow has been managing the IAN activities for more than two decades. As he is due to superannuate from CSIR-IITR, Lucknow in November 2023, he expressed his limitations to have a physical office for IAN at CSIR-IITR after that. He proposed that IAN headquarters may be relocated at some other neuroscience institute. He also assured that he will help in smooth transition of headquarters to the new location. After detailed deliberations on the matter, it was unanimously decided that the IAN headquarter office be moved to the National Brain Research Centre (NBRC), Manesar as there is already an active NCR Chapter of IAN involved in neuroscience activities under its auspices. Dr Pankaj Seth, the General Secretary agreed to help in the matter after discussing the possibility with other senior colleagues and leadership at NBRC, Manesar. Dr Vinay K. Khanna, the Secretary Hq, assured his full support and cooperation in the matter.
- iii) The members also discussed to explore the possibilities to have workshops/symposia/sessions under the auspices of the IAN-Japan Chapter and IAN-US Chapter of IAN involving Indian experts. This may be organized online or in hybrid mode. The members were in agreement and Dr Renu Wadhawa and Dr Suresh L Mehta who were connected online agreed to look into the possibility.
- iv) The members also discussed the matter of dwindling financial support from funding agencies for scientific conferences and change in processing of release of committed funds from funding agencies for Scientific conferences. Prof Patro apprised the members that only DBT has sanctioned some financial support for IAN 2023, but the funds will be released in an reimbursement mode, after successful completion and submission of all UC-SE etc to DBT CTEP office.
- v) After the above mentioned deliberations, the members decided to meet again on September 29, 2023 for an online meeting which will be followed by in-person meeting of EC at the conference menu during IAN 2023.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all members and President for their time and efforts for the academy.

Indian Academy of Neurosciences

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held online on Friday; September 29, 2023

The meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held online. The members were connected through Google meet. The meeting chaired by IK Patro, President of the Academy was attended by following members,

1. Dr Renu Wadhwa, Japan
2. Dr Anirban Basu, Manesar
3. Dr TR Raju, Bengaluru
4. Dr Pankaj Seth, Manesar
5. Dr Suresh L Mehta, Madison
6. Dr AK Agrawal, Lucknow
7. Dr SC Biswas, Kolkata
8. DR Sudip Paul, Shillong
9. Dr Meenakshi Bawari, Silchar
10. Dr Phalguni Anand alladi, Bengaluru
11. Dr Amit Mishra, Jodhpur
12. Dr Shashi Bala Singh, Hyderabad
13. Dr IK Patro
14. Dr Pankaj Seth
15. Dr Vinay K. Khanna

Dr IK Patro, the President of the Academy extended warm welcome to the members and thanked them for attending the meeting online. The meeting proceeded as per the agenda,

1. The members were informed that the minutes of the last EC meeting held on Friday; September 15, 2023 online were circulated after the approval of the President and no comments were received. The EC approved the minutes.
2. The EC was informed that there were 15 nominations for consideration for the election of Fellows of IAN. Out of 15, 05 nominees (Sl no. 1 – 5) had the second chance while 10 nominees (Sl no. 6 – 15) had the first chance.

Second Chance

- | | |
|---|--------|
| i. Dr Amul Sakharkar, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, India | LS-284 |
| ii. Dr Jitendra Narain Singh, NIPER, Punjab, India | LS-79 |
| iii. Dr Mousumi Mutsuddi, BHU, Varanasi, India | LM-121 |
| iv. Dr Shubha Srivastava, Kashi Naresh PG College, Bhadohi, India | LS-201 |
| v. Dr Sumana Chakravarty, CSIR-IICT, Hyderabad, India | LC-69 |

First Chance

- | | |
|---|--------|
| vi. Dr (Ms). Prachi Srivastava, AMITY University, Lucknow | LS-199 |
| vii. Dr (Ms). Bindu M. Kutty, NIMHANS, Bengaluru | LK -23 |
| viii. Dr SP Arun, IISc, Bengaluru | LA -82 |
| ix. Dr Sajikumar Sreedharan, NUS, Singapore | LS-330 |
| x. Dr (Ms). Usha Rajamma, IUCBR&SSH, Kottayam | LU-06 |

xi.	Dr Amal Chandra Mondal, JNU, New Delhi	LM-114
xii.	Dr Amit Mishra, IIT, Jodhpur	LM-111
xiii.	Dr Jackson James, RGCB, Trivandrum	LJ-25
xiv.	Dr Krishanu Ray, NBRC, Manesar	LR-99
xv.	Dr (Ms). Sheffali Gulati, AIIMS, New Delhi	LG-114

All the nominations were reviewed by the Academic Committee which recommended that Dr Krishanu Ray (NBRC, Manesar); Dr Sajikumar Sreedharan (NUS, Singapore); Dr Amit Mishra (IIT, Jodhpur); Dr (Ms). Bindu M. Kutty (NIMHANS, Bengaluru); Dr (Ms). Sheffali Gulati (AIIMS, New Delhi); Dr SP Arun (IISc, Bengaluru) be elected Fellows of Indian Academy of Neurosciences. The recommendation of the Academic Committee for electing Fellows was approved unanimously by the EC. Further, there was no proposal for electing Honorary Fellow this time.

3. The composition of Search Committee for selecting candidates for BK Bachhawat Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award, KT Shetty Memorial Oration, SS Parmar Oration and PN Tandon Oration for 2024 and Academic Committee for electing Fellows for the year 2024 was discussed. The EC approved following names for the Search committee and Academic committee -

Search Committee for BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award, KT Shetty Memorial Oration, SS Parmar Oration and PN Tandon Oration

Ex-officio members – Dean, President, General Secretary, Secretary HQ, Editor
Fellows – Dr Subrata Sinha, New Delhi; Dr TR Raju, Bengaluru

Academic Committee

Ex-officio members – Dean, President, General Secretary, Secretary HQ,
Fellows – Dr BG Unni, Mallapuram; Dr Raghu Vemuganti, UoW, Wisconsin; Raj D Mehra, New Delhi

4. The EC was informed that following four papers were received for consideration for Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize for the year 2023,
 - I. Dr Paramdeep Singh, Additional Professor, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bathinda Assessment of Resting-state functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Connectivity Among Patients with Major Depressive Disorder: A Comparative Study Annals of Neurosciences; [https:// doi: 10.1177/09727531231191889](https://doi.org/10.1177/09727531231191889)
 - II. Dr H. Yarreiphang, Assistant Professor (Adhoc), Hans Raj College, University of Delhi, Delhi Apoptotic Factors and Mitochondrial Complexes Assist Determination of Strain-Specific Susceptibility of Mice to Parkinsonian Neurotoxin MPTP Molecular Neurobiology; <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12035-023-03372-1>
 - III. Anugya Srivastava, CSIR - Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow Potential of Quercetin to Protect Cadmium Induced Cognitive Deficits in Rats by Modulating NMDA-R Mediated Downstream Signaling and PI3K/AKT-Nrf2/ARE Signaling Pathways in Hippocampus

- IV. Urmilla John, School of Studies in Neuroscience, Jiwaji University, Gwalior
Astrogliosis and associated CSPG upregulation adversely affect dendritogenesis, spinogenesis and synaptic activity in the cerebellum of a double-hit rat model of protein malnutrition (PMN) and lipopolysaccharide (LPS) induced bacterial infection
Journal of Chemical Neuroanatomy; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jchemneu.2023.102286>

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

- i. Dr Shashi B. Singh, NIPER-Hyderabad, Hyderabad
- ii. Dr Suresh L Mehta, University of Wisconsin, Madison
- iii. Dr Suman Jain, AIIMS, New Delhi

He further informed that the paper of Urmilla John, School of Studies in Neuroscience, Jiwaji University, Gwalior published in Journal of Chemical Neuroanatomy has received highest scores from the Reviewers and should be considered for the award. The EC unanimously approved the recommendation.

The EC further approved the proposal to provide travel fellowships - Lalita-Ravindra Nath Travel Fellowship (08); IAN Travel Fellowship (08); John Miller Travel Award (02) and Lalita – Ravindra Nath International Travel Fellowship (03) to the deserving candidates.

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

**Papers to be presented in the oral session
(Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award / D. M. Kar Prize)**

Harry W.M. Steinbusch, University of Maastricht, The Netherlands; Timothy Breddy, USA; TR Raju, Bengaluru; SP Arun, Bengaluru; Akshay Anand, Chandigarh; Renu Wadhwa, Japan; P Seth, Manesar.

**Papers to be presented in the poster session
(SS Parmar Research Foundation USA Prize, Suttee Nag Prize, SfN Bangalore Chapter Award, Best Paper award from Organizers)**

Dr Rajnikant Mishra, BHU, Varanasi; Dr PK Tiwari, Jiwaji University, Gwalior; Sabita Mishra, MAMC, Delhi, Sourav Banerjee, NBRC, Manesar, Ashutosh Dharap, USA, Rajesh Yadav, NFL, Bhopal.

6. Dr AK Agrawal, the Treasurer of Indian Academy of Neurosciences presented the statement of accounts duly audited by the Chartered Accountant. The EC was informed about the expenditure, savings, induction of new Life and Associate Members during the year. The Treasurer informed that payment of dues towards affiliation fee of IBRO has been settled up to the year 2023. Further, the affiliation fee of IAN with FAONS for the period 2020 – 2023 will be settled once the invoice is received from FAONS. While appreciating the efforts of the Treasurer for maintaining the IAN accounts efficiently, the report presented by the Treasurer was approved by the EC.

7. Presenting the Editor's report, Dr. Akshay Anand, Chief Editor said that the Journal, Annals of Neurosciences (AON), serves as a vital platform for the dissemination of cutting-edge research and advancements in the field of neuroscience. In 2023, it is poised to maintain its commitment to academic excellence by bringing forth four meticulously curated issues, meeting the stringent requirements of various esteemed indexing agencies, including PubMed. The AON diligently uploads its journal issues on the SAGE website, ensuring timely accessibility to a global audience. He informed the EC that the submission process, currently managed by SAGE publishers, undergoes continuous coordination and evolution. He further apprised the EC that a total of 124 manuscripts submitted in 2023 undergo a rigorous review process, with 53 manuscripts slated for publication, including supplementary issue. He acknowledged that the collaborative efforts of National and International reviewers from the neuroscience fraternity to the success of the Journal. While discussing the financial aspects, including APC Royalty and editorial staff payments, he said that these are intricately handled, reflecting the demanding nature of continuous collaboration with publishers. The online version of AON content for the year 2023 is seamlessly available on the website, maintained by dedicated professionals, and the submission process continues under the evolving coordination of SAGE. Acknowledging the pivotal role of its Editorial Board and Reviewers and his colleague Dr Krishna K. Sony, he expressed gratitude to all those involved for their efficient services and suggestions in elevating the standard of the journal. Dr Anand further mentioned that the utilization of social networking platforms amplified the visibility and impact of AON, with the Journal boasting a commendable Impact Factor of 1.5 in 2023. The relentless pursuit of excellence and continuous adaptation to evolving standards define the Annals of Neurosciences as a dynamic and indispensable resource in the field. He also discussed important points including engagement with early career researchers, reader feedback and surveys, promotion of multidisciplinary research, quality metrics monitoring to improve the quality of journal. The EC applauded the efforts of Dr Anand and all his colleagues involved in the process to run the journal meticulously.
8. The request of Dr Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ, IAN to shift the HQ from Lucknow was discussed in detail as he was due to superannuate in November 2023. Realizing the difficulty to run the office smoothly, the EC considered the proposal to shift the IAN HQ from CSIR-IITR, Lucknow to NBRC, Manesar. Dr Pankaj Seth accepted the request to explore the possibility to run the IAN HQ from NBRC, Manesar. He informed that a soft consent from the Director, NBRC has already been obtained earlier. He informed that further formalities will be completed soon. Continuing with these discussions, Dr AK Agrawal, the Treasurer of IAN also requested Dr Pankaj Seth to identify an IAN Member at NBRC who may execute the responsibility as Treasurer. As the process to shift the IAN HQ will take some time, Dr Agrawal was requested to discharge his duties as Treasurer, IAN till the papers are handed over to the new elected Treasurer of IAN. It was proposed and decided that Dr Sourav Banerjee, NBRC, Life member of IAN, may be entrusted with duties of the treasurer, after getting the accounts audited for the year 2023 – 2024. Dr. Sourav Banerjee would work with Dr Agrawal for at least one year for smooth transition.
9. The EC was informed that the proposal to hold the XLII annual conference of IAN in 2024 received from NIMHANS, Bengaluru was discussed earlier. The members were informed that the administrative approval from NIMHANS, Bengaluru has also been received. It was further informed that proposal to hold the XLIII annual conference of IAN in 2025 has been received from Dr Jackson James, RCGB, Thiruvananthapuram. The EC discussed on the request of Dr Jackson James and decided that the proposal be discussed in the GB to take a final decision.

10. The EC was happy to note that lectures, symposia and hands on workshop were organized under the auspices of local chapters of IAN. It was further discussed that more activities and specially workshops be organized to train the young researchers.
11. The members were informed that certain activities supported by IAN under IAN – IBRO Global Neuroscience Advocacy initiative were well received. It was further discussed that besides academic activities, public / popular lectures may also be organized under the IAN – IBRO Global Advocacy programme by the local chapters. Plan of activities to be undertaken by the members may be submitted to the Secretary HQ in case 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. The Secretary requested the members to hold programs under the auspices IAN – IBRO Global Neuroscience Advocacy alongwith other colleagues for the cause. Support
12. Based on the suggestions for the posts to be filled up, the Executive Committee for 2024 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

After the above mentioned deliberations, the members decided to meet again on October 3, 2023 for in-person meeting of EC at the conference venue during IAN 2023.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all members and President for their time and efforts for the academy.

Indian Academy of Neurosciences

Executive Committee - 2024

President Dr Vinay K. Khanna Lucknow 2024 - 2026	Members Dr (Ms). Phalguni A. Alladi Bengaluru 2022 - 2024
Vice Presidents Dr (Ms). Renu Wadhwa Tsukuba, Japan 2023 - 2024	Dr Amit Mishra Jodhpur 2022 - 2024
Dr Anirban Basu Manesar 2023 - 2025	Dr Sudip Paul Shillong 2023 - 2025
Dean Dr Rajat Sandhir Chandigarh 2024 - 2026	Dr Nixon Abraham Pune 2024 - 2025
General Secretary Dr Subhas C. Biswas Kolkata 2024 - 2025	Dr (Ms). Poonam Thakur Thiruvananthapuram 2024 - 2026
Secretary HQ Dr Pankaj Seth Manesar 2024 - 2024	Dr Aamir Nazir Lucknow 2024 - 2026
Secretary International Affairs Dr Suresh L. Mehta Madison, USA 2022 - 2024	Immediate Past President Dr Ishan K. Patro Gwalior
Treasurer Dr Saurav Banerjee Manesar 2024 - 2025	Immediate Past General Secretary Dr Pankaj Seth Manesar
Chief Editor Dr Akshay Anand Chandigarh 2024 - 2026	