

Indian Academy of Neurosciences

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held online on April 25, 2024

The meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held in Hybrid mode. The meeting chaired by VK Khanna, President of the Academy was attended by following members,

1. Dr Renu Wadhwa, Japan
2. Dr Anirban Basu, Manesar
3. Dr Rajat Sandhir, Chandigarh
4. Dr Pankaj Seth, Manesar
5. Dr AK Agrawal, Lucknow
6. Dr Sourav Banerjee, Manesar
7. Dr SC Biswas, Kolkata
8. Dr Poonam Thakur, Thiruvananthapuram
9. Dr Phalguni Anand Alladi, Bengaluru
10. Dr Amit Mishra, Jodhpur
11. Dr Nixon Abraham, Pune
12. Dr. Amir Nazir, Lucknow
13. Dr IK Patro
14. Dr Pankaj Seth
15. Dr Vinay K. Khanna

Dr Suresh L Mehta, Madison could not attend due to prior-commitments.

Dr VK Khanna, 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 meetings held on September 29, 2023 were circulated after the approval of the President and no comments were received. The EC approved the minutes.
2. The members were informed that the dues to IBRO and FAONS are to be settled to continue the affiliation with IAN and EC approved the same.
3. The members were apprised that selection of awardees for Lalita and Ravindra Nath international travel fellowship has been completed for 2023 and the next round of applications have been invited through online portal and reviewing of applications is in process.
4. The members deliberated on encouraging the local chapters to enhance the activities in their region by engaging with local neuroscientists and holding workshops for the benefit of young researchers. It was further discussed that activities on brain awareness and popular lectures should also be organized at regular intervals.
5. The EC was happy to note that the announcement of IAN-2024 meeting at NIMHANS, Bengaluru has been posted on the website and circulated among the members. The format of tentative scientific programme was discussed and the members suggested the organizing secretary to constitute a scientific program committee at the earliest and to advertise the

meeting throughout the national and international neuroscience community to attract good symposia proposals.

Any other matter

1. The EC was informed that the transfer of IAN headquarters to NBRC, Manesar will take some more time. It was further informed that transfer of IAN account will take place after completing necessary formalities. To continue the admittance of new members, unconditional help of Dr AK Agrawal, Former Treasurer was appreciated by the members.

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; November 8, 2024

The meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held online. The members were connected through Zoom meeting platform. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, President IAN and conducted by Dr Pankaj Seth, Secretary Headquarter and attended by following members -

1. Dr Anirban Basu, Manesar
2. Dr Rajat Sandhir, Chandigarh
3. Dr Pankaj Seth, Manesar
4. Dr Sourav Banerjee, Manesar
5. Dr SC Biswas, Kolkata
6. Dr Sudip Paul, Shillong
7. Dr Poonam Thakur, Trivandrum
8. Dr Phalguni Anand Alladi, Bengaluru
9. Dr Amit Mishra, Jodhpur
10. Dr Aamir Nazir, Lucknow
11. Dr IK Patro, Gwalior

Dr Suresh Mehta and Dr Nixon Abraham could not attend the meeting.

Dr Vinay K. Khanna, 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 meetings held on Friday; September 15, 2023 and April 25, 2024 online were circulated after the approval of the President and no comments were received. The EC approved the minutes.
2. The organizing secretary Dr Phalguni Anand Alladi presented a brief overview of the scientific program and overall arrangements for IAN 2024. Dr Alladi informed the members that around 500 delegates had already registered and the meeting would have four IAN orations, plenary lectures, symposia talk, invited talks, short talks and two young scientist colloquiums. She also informed that abstracts for paper presentations in the poster session (over 60 abstracts in the award category and ~ 160 other abstracts) have been received from students, PDFs and young researchers. She also mentioned about the national and international neuroscientists who have consented for being part of the annual meeting. Realizing the fact that IAN annual meetings have large attendance of neuroscientists, it is difficult to avoid parallel sessions. However, it was decided that there will be no parallel sessions to orations, plenary talks and young scientist colloquiums as far as possible. The efforts of the scientific programme committee for inviting distinguished neuroscientists for different sessions were appreciated by the members.
3. The members were apprised of the nominations received for IAN orations and life time achievement award by Dr Pankaj Seth, Secretary Headquarter.

BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award

Dr Shashi Bala Singh, Former DGLS, DRDO and Former Director, DIHAR, DIPAS & NIPER-Hyderabad

PN Tandon Oration

1. Dr. Pratima Murthy, NIMHANS, Bengaluru
2. Dr. KK Deepak, IIT, Delhi

SS Parmar Oration

1. Dr Anita Jagota, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
2. Dr Sandhya Kaushika, TIFR, Mumbai.
3. Dr Sumana Chakravarty, IICT, Hyderabad

KT Shetty Memorial Oration

1. Dr Samarjit Bhattacharyya, IISER, Mohali.
2. Dr Syed Z Rehman, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
3. Dr Jackson James, RGCB, Thiruvananthapuram.

He further informed that all nominations were reviewed by the search Committee and based on the votes received following candidates were selected for different orations and life time achievement award –

BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award

Dr Shashi Bala Singh, Former DGLS, DRDO and Former Director, DIHAR, DIPAS & NIPER-Hyderabad

PN Tandon Oration

Dr. Pratima Murthy, NIMHANS, Bengaluru

SS Parmar Oration

Dr Sandhya Kaushika, TIFR, Mumbai.

KT Shetty Memorial Oration

Dr Samarjit Bhattacharyya, IISER, Mohali.

The EC approved the recommendations of the search committee

4. 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 the year 2025 and Academic Committee for electing Fellows for the year 2025 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 Ashok K. Agrawal, Lucknow, Dr Raghu Vemuganti, UoW, Wisconsin, USA; Dr Ishan K. Patro, Gwalior

5. The recommendations of the Academic committee for election of fellows were placed before the EC for approval. The members were informed that there were 13 nominations for consideration for the election of Fellows of IAN. The nominations are valid for three years from the year the nominees are first nominated. Out of 13, 05 nominees (Sl. no. 1 – 5) had the third chance, 04 nominees (Sl no. 6 – 9) had the second chance and the remaining 04 nominees (Sl. no. 9 - 13) had their first chance.

Third Chance

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|---|--------|
| 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 |

Second Chance

- | | |
|---|--------|
| vi. Dr Prachi Srivastava, AMITY University, Lucknow | LS-199 |
| vii. Dr Usha Rajamma, IUCBR&SSH, Kottayam | LU-06 |
| viii. Dr Amal Chandra Mondal, JNU, New Delhi | LM-114 |
| ix. Dr Jackson James, RGCB, Thiruvananthapuram | LJ-25 |

First Chance

- | | |
|--|--------|
| x. Dr Aamir Nazir, CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow | LN-46 |
| xi. Dr Mehdi Hayat Shahi, IBRC, AMU, Aligarh | LS-255 |
| xii. Dr KH Reeta, AIIMS, New Delhi | LR-61 |
| xiii. Dr Challa Suresh, ICMR-NIN, Hyderabad | LC-76 |

It was further informed that all nominations were reviewed by the Academic Committee which recommended that Dr Amul Sakharkar (SPPU, Pune); Dr Aamir Nazir (CSIR-CDRI), Dr Mousumi Mutsuddi (BHU, Varanasi); Dr Sumana Chakravarty (CSIR-IICT, Hyderabad), Dr Jackson James (RGCB, Trivandrum) and Dr Prachi Srivastava (AMITY University, Lucknow) 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 discussion on the proposal for considering Prof John Nurnberger, as Honorary Fellow. Dr Nurnberger is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus Joyce & Iver Small Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry Professor Emeritus of Neurobiology, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN, USA. The EC members agreed to elect Prof John Nurnberger as Honorary Fellow based on his scientific accomplishments and contributions to the field.

6. Dr Pankaj Seth, the Secretary Headquarter informed the EC that following 06 papers were received for consideration for Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize for the year 2024,

1. Mydhili Radhakrishnan, Applied Biology, CSIR- Indian Institute of Chemical, Technology (IICT), Tarnaka, Hyderabad, India **NeuroMolecular Medicine** (2024) 26:3, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12017-023-08768-9>

2. Priya Tiwari, Division of Pharmacology, CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow **International Immunopharmacology** 139 (2024) 112654 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.intimp.2024.112654>

3. Ravindran Revand *Department of Physiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India;* **Cardiovascular & Hematological Agents in Medicinal Chemistry** <https://10.2174/1871525721666230407103734>

4. Akash Kr Singh & Amrish Rai, *AK Singh - Transcription and Disease Laboratory, Molecular Biology, and Genetics Unit, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bengaluru 560 064, India; Amrish Rai – Division of Neuroscience and Ageing Biology, CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow 226031, India; ACS Chem. Neurosci.* **2024, 15, 2741–2755** <https://doi.org/10.1021/acchemneuro.4c00124>

5. Radhika Khosla Neuroscience Research Lab, PGIMER, Chandigarh, India, **Heliyon** 9 (2023) e18287 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e18287>

6. Roon Banerjee, Department of Biophysics, NIMHANS, Bengaluru 560029, Karnataka, India, **Cells** **2023**, 12, 1592. <https://doi.org/10.3390/cells12121592>

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

- i. Dr Shashi B. Singh, New Delhi
- ii. Dr Mahendra K Thakur, BHU, Varanasi
- iii. Dr Raghu Vemuganti, Univ of Wisconsin, Madison, USA
- iv. Dr Renu Wadhawa, AIST, Japan

He further informed that the paper Amrish Rai, Division of Neuroscience and Ageing Biology, CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow published in ACS Chemical Neurosciences received highest scores and thus should be considered for the award. The Secretary Headquarter also informed that this particular paper had two equal contributors as first author Amrish Rai and Akash Kr Singh. Akash Kr Singh had provided a no objection certificate to IAN by e-mail that the paper submitted by Amrish Rai be considered for the award. The EC approved the recommendation.

In view of large number of requests received to provide travel fellowships for attending the IAN meeting, the EC approved the proposal to increase travel fellowships. It was decided that 04 more IAN Travel Fellowships (total 08) and 01 more John Miller Travel Award (total 02) be given to the deserving candidates to encourage them. It was further suggested that 02 more Lalita-Ravindra Nath Travel Fellowships (total 06) be given to the deserving candidates in case Lalita-Ravindra Nath Foundation agrees to the proposal. Dr Pankaj Seth was requested to seek approval for the same.

7. The EC approved following members in the panel to adjudge papers to be presented in the Award Session during the XLII annual meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences. The organizing secretary was advised to use the panel for the two oral sessions and avoid any conflict of interests.

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

Dr. John Nurnberger, Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN, USA
Dr. Lance McMahon, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, USA
Dr. Subash C Pandey, UIC, Chicago, USA
Dr. Mirosław Janowski, University of Maryland, Baltimore, USA.
Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, CSIR-IITR
Dr. Rajat Sandhir, PU, Chandigarh
Dr. Sourav Banerjee, NBRC, Manesar

Dr. Sandhya Kaushika, TIFR, Mumbai
Dr. Kavita Babu, IISc Bangalore
Dr. Soumya Iyengar, NBRC, Gurgaon
Dr. Samrjit Bhattacharya, IISER, Mohali
Dr. Ishwariya Venkatesh, CSIR-CCMB

8. **Following names were decided for forming the panel of judges for papers to be presented in the poster session (SS Parmar Research Foundation USA Prize-2, Sutte Nag Prize-2, Best Paper award from Organizers-6) -**

Dr. Sabita Mishra, MAMC, New Delhi	Dr. Ishwariya Venkatesh, CSIR-CCMB
Dr. Akshay Anand, PGIMER, Chandigarh	Dr Aamir Nazir CSIR-CDRI
Dr Sorav Banerjee, NBRC, Gurgaon	Dr Sumana Chakravarthy, CSIR-IICT,
Hyderabad.	
Dr Aditi Naskar, USA	Dr. Kamlesh Gulia, Sree Chitra
Dr. Rajat Sandir, PU, Chandigarh	Dr Amrutha Swaminathan, IISER
Dr. Seena Vengali	Dr Bhavana Murlidhar, InStem, Bangalore
Dr. Reeta Mani	Dr Soumya Pati, Shiv Nadar University, Noida.
Dr. Subasree	Dr. Sudip Sen, AIIMS, New Delhi
Dr. Samarjit Bhattacharya, IISER Mohali	Dr Arpita Konar, Presidency College, Kolkata
Dr. Veena Kumari	
Dr. Sandhya Kaushika, TIFR, Mumbai	
Dr. Nisha Patro, Jiwaji University	
Dr. Ishan Patro, Jiwaji University	
Dr. Jackson James, RGCB, Trivandrum	
Dr. Vinod Tiwari, IIT-BHU, Varanasi	
Dr Vivek Jain, MLSU, Udaipur	
Dr. Prachi Srivastava, AMITY Lucknow	
Dr. Yogita Adlakha, Amity NOIDA	
Prof. Debomoy Lahiri, USA	
Dr. Sharmishta Dey	
Dr. Tony George Jacob	
Dr. Pramod Avti, PGIMER, Chandigarh	

Dr Alladi was asked to contact the potential judges to have their consent and inform them the posters they have to review in advance. She was advised that all care should be taken to avoid conflict of interests by the judges. The members further suggested that Dr Alladi may add more names from the list of delegates attending the meeting, if necessary.

9. In view of large number of papers in the poster session, the members discussed and approved the proposal to increase number of awards in the poster session category. The EC approved to have 06 Best Paper Award From Organizers in this category.
10. Dr Pankaj Seth presented the statement of accounts duly audited by the Chartered Accountant on behalf of Dr AK Agrawal and Dr Sourav Banerjee the outgoing and current Treasurer respectively of Indian Academy of Neurosciences. The EC was informed about the expenditure, savings, induction of new Life and Associate Members during the year. The EC was 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 Treasurer report was approved by the EC. It was further informed that Dr Agrawal would handhold the new Treasurer and will be available for any guidance if needed by the new Treasurer. The members appreciated the efforts of Dr Ashok Agrawal for keeping the academy in financially strong position.

As IAN is a non-profit organization, there were discussions over utilizing part of the interest income of the academy. It was suggested to provide some financial support to the organizers of the annual meetings of the academy, based on availability of funds to support local hospitality and waiving of the registrations of speakers for international symposium incase required. It was felt that this would encourage international participation in IAN meetings. It was suggested that Treasurer, General Secretary and Secretary Headquarter – IAN would look into the matter in consultation with the President and come up with the proposal. The proposal may be placed before the EC to take decision for financial support for the future meetings. It will be in addition to the funds already committed for orations, awards and travel.

11. Presenting the Editor's report, Dr. Akshay Anand, Chief Editor informed 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 2025, it is poised to maintain its commitment to academic excellence by bringing forth 04 meticulously curated issues, meeting the stringent requirements of various esteemed indexing agencies, including PubMed. He was happy to inform that the Annals of Neurosciences (AON) has impact factor of 1.5. Dr Anand apprised the EC that a total of 151 manuscripts were submitted in 2024 to undergo a rigorous review process. Out of this, 11 manuscripts were rejected. He also discussed the financial aspects, including APC Royalty of about Rs 2.26 Lakhs paid by SAGE in last financial year to IAN. He acknowledged the pivotal role of members of the Editorial Board especially Dr Krishna K. Sony in bringing out all issues of 2024. He further informed that the October issue is to be uploaded shortly. The efforts of Dr Anand and Dr Sony were appreciated by the members.

It was further discussed that a sub-committee be formed for deliberating on the issues of the future renewal of contract/agreement with the publisher. A committee with following members was approved by the EC –

Dr Vinay Kumar Khanna, Dr Subrata Sinha, Dr IK Patro, Dr Akshay Anand, Dr Krishna Sony, Dr Sourav Banerjee, Dr Pankaj Seth.

The subcommittee would negotiate to add a supplement issue to the contract, where the abstracts of the IAN annual meetings may be published at no additional or at a heavily discounted cost to IAN and better royalty percentage for the academy in future.

12. Organization of activities under local chapters and consider the proposal to create new local chapters was discussed. The Secretary Headquarter informed the EC that several activities have been conducted through-out the year under the auspices of local chapters at Lucknow, Bengaluru, Varanasi and Delhi-NCR. He further informed that one IBRO-APRC School at BHU, Varanasi and one ISN School at MLSU, Udaipur and hands-on workshop were conducted in association with IAN. These were well attended by faculty and students from various institutions in India and outside. 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.

The proposal for creating a new chapter at SRHU, Dehradun received from the Dean Research and Vice Chancellor was discussed. As the institution has vibrant neuroscience group and good infrastructure, the EC approved that local chapter of IAN at SRHU, Dehradun may be started as per request.

13. The EC discussed to hold programs under the auspices of IAN-IBRO global neuroscience advocacy from the funding available under this head with IAN. It was decided that the plan of activities to be undertaken by the members may be submitted to the Secretary Headquarter in case any support is required from IAN. These proposals will be reviewed by the academic committee and a financial support up to INR 50,000/- may be provided by IAN. The EC further recommended that the matter be placed before the GB for approval.
14. Discussion on ideas of enhancing the international visibility of IAN was deliberated at length and suggestions were given by the EC members. It was decided that – 1) IAN should use the power of Social media advertisement of IAN activities and awards. Poster with IAN annual meeting announcement with specific date and symposium to be circulated to Indian institutes and Universities. 2) Formation of programme committees for annual meetings - should comprise young, mid-career and established faculty along with 2-3 members of local organizers. 3) Organization of symposia from regional neuroscience societies. 4) Initiate the organization part of the annual meeting well in advance, in fact as soon as the next meeting venue and dates for the meeting are decided. This should include invitation for symposium, notable speaker selection for titled lectures and seek funds from various sources. 5) Postdoc and student driven Young Investigator symposium for the annual meetings. 6) Establish active connections with Japanese / Korean / Singapore--Neuroscience Society in order to reciprocate their efforts to integrate with IAN.

The EC agreed that preparation for future meeting should be started well in advance and efforts to attract participation from regional neuroscience bodies be made to further strengthen our associations.

15. Proposals to hold IAN 2025 and 2026 were discussed. The EC was informed that the proposal to hold the XLIII annual conference of IAN in 2025 received from RGCB, Thiruvananthapuram was discussed earlier. The members were informed that the formal

proposal with administrative approval from RGCB, Thiruvananthapuram has also been received. It was further informed that proposal to hold the XLIV annual conference of IAN in 2026 has been received from Dr Arpan Banerjee, NBRC, Manesar and Dr Bindu Dey, SRHU, Dehradun. The EC discussed both the proposals and approved that the annual meeting in 2026 be organized at NBRC, Manesar. The EC suggested that a satellite meeting for the year 2025 and 2026 may be organized at SRHU, Dehradun. It was further suggested that the proposal may be discussed in the GB to take a final decision.

It was also decided that as our neuroscience community is growing and there has been constant increase in the number of delegates at the annual meetings of the Academy, it was decided that IAN EC would constitute a Scientific Program Committee which would focus on the scientific content, plenary speakers, and ensure a uniform standard to the schedule, number of talks, number of parallel sessions, time slots for posters etc. The total number of symposia and the number of invited speakers should also be fixed. The deadlines for accepting the symposia should be strictly adhered. It was further suggested that at least two hours/day should be allocated for the poster sessions.

The organizing secretary and scientific programme committee will seek advice of President, Secretary HQ and the members of the EC, so that all the IAN sessions are covered in annual meetings of the IAN.

16. Based on the suggestions for the posts to be filled up, the Executive Committee for 2025 was proposed as mentioned in Annexure – I. It was further suggested that proposed EC may be placed before the General Body for approval.
17. Proposal to change the requirement of all the hardcopies for various awards, fellowships of IAN and switch online submissions was discussed and agreed by all the EC members.

Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

After the deliberations on the agenda points, the members decided to meet again on quarterly basis, with at least three meetings in each calendar year.

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

Proposed Executive Committee

President Dr Vinay K. Khanna Lucknow 2024 - 2026	Members Dr Sudip Paul Shillong 2023 - 2025
Vice Presidents Dr Anirban Basu Manesar 2023 - 2025	Dr Nixon Abraham Pune 2024 - 2025
Dr SC Pandey Chicago 2025 - 2027	Dr (Ms). Poonam Thakur Thiruvananthapuram 2024 - 2026
Dean Dr Rajat Sandhir Chandigarh 2024 - 2026	Dr Aamir Nazir Lucknow 2024 - 2026
General Secretary Dr Subhas C. Biswas Kolkata 2024 - 2025	Dr Phalguni A. Alladi Bangalore 2025 - 2027
Secretary HQ Dr Pankaj Seth Manesar 2025 - 2027	Dr Kavita Babu Bangalore 2025 - 2027
Secretary International Affairs Dr Gurudutt N. Pendyala Nebraska, USA 2025- 2027	Immediate Past President Dr Ishan K. Patro Gwalior
Treasurer Dr Sourav Banerjee Manesar 2024 - 2025	Immediate Past General Secretary Dr Pankaj Seth Manesar
Chief Editor Dr Akshay Anand Chandigarh 2024 - 2026	