

Minutes of the General Body Meeting held on 6th September, 1994 at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Sevagram, Wardha.

Prof. K.Srinivasan, President, ISMS welcomed the members in the meeting. In his opening remarks, he said that many important issues were discussed in the meeting of the Executive Council which met on 4th Sept., 1994. He mentioned that the recommendations of the Executive Council, as per agenda of the meeting would be placed before the General Body for discussion and approval.

Dr. K.R. Sundaram, General Secretary, ISMS, presented his report highlighting the activities of the Society during the last one year and the membership position and its breakup according to year, type and discipline (medical/non-medical). He again expressed his satisfaction at the steady increase in the life membership and good (about one quarter) representation from the medical fraternity. His report was accepted unanimously. The house appreciated the functioning of the present secretariat of the Society and mentioned special thanks for getting the registration of the Society under society's registration act in 1994. Accordingly, as an inbuilt system, the present office of the Secretariat will continue to look after mainly communication with the Delhi Registrar's Office until the Secretariat is shifted to some other place in future.

Dr. S.N. Dwivedi, Treasurer, ISMS, presented his report for the financial year 1993-94. He remarked that the total expenditure to the level of about Rs. 9000.00, as mentioned in the audited report, was due to mainly two reasons : (i) Amount given for meeting the initial expenses for two conferences (Rs. 1000/- each) during the same financial year; and (ii) two circulars sent during the same financial year. He

expressed his satisfaction over the reimbursements made by Prof. K.V. Suryanarayana, Organising Secretary of the XIth ISMS conference held in Visakhapatnam in 1993. He mentioned that it is for the first time that reimbursements of advances given for expenditure, has been made by the Organising Secretary of the ISMS conference and hope that Organising Secretaries of the future ISMS conferences will follow the path set by Prof. Suryanarayana, as per constitution of the Society. His report was accepted unanimously. As per recommendations made by the executive council, the house approved:

(a) the proposed enhancement in membership fee (w.e.f. 1st Jan., 1995) from Rs. 30/= to Rs. 50/= for the annual membership; from Rs. 300/= to Rs. 500/= for the life membership; from Rs. 300/= to Rs. 500/= annually for the institutional membership; and from Rs. 20/= to Rs. 30/= for the student membership; and enhancement in membership fee on respective prorata basis from foreign nationals; and (b) the investment of the amounts obtained from fixed deposits (already matured or yet to mature) as UTI units in the name of the Society under "Unit Scheme - 1964". A competent UTI agent may be entrusted with this task and possible commission paid by him/her may also be credited in Society's account. It was also decided that the Society should have only one account in any bank whose services are relatively better. Also, about Rs. 20,000/- should be left as Fixed Deposits for use under unavoidable circumstances.

The outgoing Editor, Prof. T. Krishnan, ISI, Calcutta, and the new Editor Dr. Arvind Pandey, IIPS, Bombay, could not be present in the meeting due to some unavoidable circumstances. However, they sent their reports to Dr. K.R. Sundaram, General Secretary, ISMS, for their respective periods namely end of

December, 1993 and since beginning of January, 1994. These reports were read by Dr. Sundaram. They were discussed in detail and were accepted unanimously. The house expressed satisfaction over the information that Dr. Sundaram sent a letter of appreciation and gratitude to Prof. Krishnan for his remarkable contributions in raising the standard of the ISMS Newsletter and also to the Director of the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta for providing the infrastructure and all assistance in publishing the Newsletter. Members expressed their satisfaction over the quality of the Newsletter being presently published by Dr. A. Pandey. They desired that it would develop further both in its quality and quantity. They approved provision of Rs. 3000 (instead of currently given Rs. 2000) to the Editor w.e.f 1995. They also joined the EC in recommending the proposal made by Dr. Pandey to publish the ISMS Newsletter as March and September issues (w.e.f. 1995) instead of current two issues as June and December, to enable him to publish all important information sufficiently earlier so that members can act accordingly before the last date for many matters.

Dr. Srinivasan placed before the General Body the recommendations of the Executive Council (EC) which met on 4th September, 1994 at the MGIMS, Wardha. The discussions are as under:

1. Venue of the Forthcoming Conferences:

(a) The general Body approved the recommendation of the EC for holding the 13th Annual Conference of the Society (1995) at the Institute for Research in Medical Statistics, Madras. Dr. S. Radhakrishna, Director of the Institute and Ex-President, ISMS, will be the Organising Secretary. The members joined the EC in communicating their thanks to Dr. Radhakrishna who was present in the meeting.

(b) The General Body joined the EC in appreciating the standby offer of Prof. Narasimhulu, Head, Deptt. of Statistics, Tirupati University, Tirupati, to hold the 14th Annual Conference of ISMS (1996). However, it was suggested that possibilities may be explored by Dr. Sundaram to hold the 14th Conference of ISMS in the North in which case the venue at Tirupati may be fixed for 15th Conference of ISMS (1997).

2. Election of Office-Bearers and Terms of the office:

(a) On the recommendations of the EC, Dr. P.P. Talwar, NIHF, New Delhi, was declared elected as President-Elect for the year 1995.

(b) The general Body approved the recommendations of the EC that Prof. K.V. Suryanarayana, Waltair and Prof. A. Indrayan, New Delhi will be EC members for three years (1995-97). Also, since there was no nomination for the third vacancy of the EC membership, they approved the EC's recommendations to co-opt Dr. B.L. Verma, Jhansi (Ex-General Secretary, ISMS) for three years (1995-97).

(c) The General Body approved the EC's recommendation to extend the President's term of office from the present one year to two years (w.e.f. 1995). Accordingly Prof. P.S.S. Sunder Rao, President-Elect, will continue as President for two years (1995-96) and Prof. P.P. Talwar will continue as President-Elect for two years (1995-96). Thus, President-Elect will now be elected every alternate year.

3. Criteria and Modality of Awards :

(a) Members approved the recommendations of the EC regarding criteria and modality of Prof. P.V. Sukhatme Award, which was finalised by the Secretariat in consultation with Dr. Rajagopalan.

(b) The General Body reiterated their earlier decision that (i) in the case of multiple authorship of a research article for any of the Society's award, it will be given only to the Principal (First) author; and (ii) an article already considered for any award earlier and was not selected during the previous years should not be submitted for reconsideration in later years.

4. Miscellaneous

(a) A detailed discussion was held on the proposal for organising technical training courses for Biostatisticians/Medical Researchers, especially regarding the course contents and persons to be trained. If adequate funds are available through any agency like DST/UNICEF, attempts will be made to organise a training programme for statistical personnel working in medical/health institutions, in 1995.

(b) As recommended by the EC, the General Body approved that the Secretariat may complete necessary formalities with the Income Tax Office, so that persons giving donations/membership subscriptions for the Society may get income tax exemption on the whole amount donated.

(c) The Secretariat may send its circulars regarding conference to the Dean/Principal/Director of the medical colleges which may help younger faculties/students to get permission for attending the conference without difficulty.

(d) To safeguard, the employment opportunities for those who have done Master's degree in Statistics, appropriate steps may be taken by the Secretariat with the concerned organisations and agencies so that only personnel trained in Statistical techniques may be considered for appointment in different Organisations/Colleges/Institutions for the posts of Statistician, Statistical Assistant etc.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

(Dr. K. Srinivasan) (Dr. K.R.Sundaram)
President, ISMS General Secretary, ISMS.

MEMBERSHIP POSITION AS ON 31-08-94

Type of Membership	84-88	89-92	93-94	Total	Med. Members *(84-94)
Life Member	192	104	55	351	97
Annual Member	25	62	20	107	13
Student Member	--	11	02	13	03
Total	217	177	77	471	113
Institutional Member	05	--	--	--	--

* Tentative

This table includes 67 Annual Members who have not paid the subscription for more than two years (3 years: 49; 4 years: 18).

6. FELLOWSHIP AND AWARDS OF ISMS FOR 1994

A. FSMS

This year's FSMS award was bestowed on (1) *Dr. Sushila Nayar*, Director, Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences, Sevagram, Wardha and (2) *Dr. P. P. Talwar*, Prof. & Ex-Head, Dept. of Statistics and Demography, National Institute for Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW), New Delhi.

A brief account of their professional achievements with special reference to their contribution to the development of Medical Statistics, Medical Education and research in Medicine and Public Health are given below:

Dr. Sushila Nayar as all of us know, is a great patriot, freedom fighter and social worker. She was the personal physician of Gandhiji during the last decade of his freedom struggle.