MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 22, 1995 AT IRMS, MADRAS.

Before starting the GB meeting, Dr. K.R. Sundaram, General Secretary, ISMS, informed the house about the sad demise of three senior founder members of the Society, viz Prof. R.N. Srivastava, Prof. B.G. Prasad and Prof. S.K. Bhattacharya. In recognition of their contributions to the Society and respecting the departed souls, the members stood in silence for two minutes. It was decided that a note of condolence should be sent to the respective families as early as possible. After this, GB meeting was started with Prof. P.S.S. Sundar Rao, President of ISMS in the chair.

Prof. P.S.S. Sundar Rao welcomed all the members in the meeting. He, however, informed that as per the constitution of ISMS, the GB meeting has to be adjourned for a short period because of the lack of adequate quorum in the meeting of the members. In the beginning of the meeting, he mentioned in his opening remarks that many important issues were discussed in the meeting of the Executive Council which met on 21st November, 1995. 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 annual report highlighting the activities of the Society during the last one year. He expressed his satisfaction at the steady increase in the life membership and good (about one quarter) representation from the medical fraternity. In the end, he thanked all the members of the Society for their help and co-operation and also for giving him an opportunity to serve the Society as General Secretary for the period from 1993 to 1995. The house appreciated the active functioning of the present secretariat of the Society and recorded special thanks to the General Secretary and the Treasurer for taking initiatives and efforts in organizing a training course for Biostatisticians in the Department of Biostatistics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi from 11-16 December, 1995. His report was accepted unanimously.

Dr. S.N. Dwivedi, Treasurer, ISMS, presented his report for the financial year 1994-95. He gave brief account of the details on the total expenditure (Rs. 11,305.22) . He thanked Prof. T. Krishnan, Ex-editor of the ISMS Newsletter, for his interest in the Society by saving and transferring a substantial amount to the Society. Also, he expressed his thanks to each and every member of ISMS for giving him opportunity to serve the Society as treasurer for a period of three years, i.e. from 1993 to 1995. His report was accepted unanimously.

As per the recommendations made by the Executive Council, the house approved the following:-

(a) Efforts be made to invest the money obtained from fixed deposits (already matured or yet to mature) as UTI units in the name of the Society under " Unit Scheme -1964". Auditor involved in the audit of account may be requested to help in this regard. Also, if necessary, the ISMS Secretariat may contact Prof. N.K. Tyagi, MGIMS, Wardha for any advice and help.

(b) Similarly, the Secretariat should complete necessary formalities with the Income Tax office, so that persons giving donations/ membership subscriptions to the Society may get income tax exemption on the whole amount.

(c) Since 1996 onwards, the organisers of the ISMS annual conference need not reimburse the token money (Rs. 1000/-) received from the Society for meeting the initial expenses for the conference.

Dr. Arvind Pandey, Editor, Newsletter, ISMS, presented his report emphasizing the need of its circulation among some non- members/ International Organisations/Societies. Efforts made by Dr. Pandey were deeply appreciated and the following recommendations made by EC were approved:

(a) The Newsletter may now be published as ISMS Bulletin.

(b) The Society will enhance the contribution to the Editor each year from Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 5000/- w.e.f. financial year 1996-97.

(c) The members can send their articles/ technical notes to the Editor for publication in the Bulletin.

(d) The members may explore the possibility of getting some advertisements to be published in the Bulletin. The Editor can workout the modalities for this in due course.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

On the recommendations of the Executive Committee and approval by the General Body:

Dr. M. Kachirayan, Deputy Director, IRMS, Madras, was declared elected as General Secretary for the years 1996 to 1998. Also, Mr. P. Jayabal, Assistant Director, IRMS, Madras was elected as Honorary Treasurer for the period 1996 to 1998.

MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Various committees were reconstituted as follows;

(i) FSMS COMMITTEE (1996-98)

President of ISMS	- Convener
General Secretary	- Member
Treasurer	- Member
Prof. P.V. Sukhatme	- Member
Prof. K.B. Pathak	- Member
Prof. P.S.S. Sundar Rao	- Member
Dr. Rameshwar Sharma	- Member
Dr. S. Radhakrishna	- Member
Dr. Padam Singh	- Member
Prof. K. Srinivasan	- Member

(ii) AWARDS COMMITTEE (1996-98)

Dr. K. Srinivasan	- Convener
Dr. Padam Singh	- Member
Dr. V.G. Kaliaperumal	- Member
Dr. A. Indrayan	- Member
Dr. B.N. Bhattacharya	- Member

(iii) NOMINATION COMMITTEE (1996-98)

Dr. K.R. Sundaram	- Convener
Dr. B.L. Verma	- Member
Dr. N.K. Tyagi	- Member

(b) The house approved that the names of awardees for various awards of ISMS may be declared during the inauguration of the Society's Annual Conference after getting it approved by the Executive Committee and the awards (medals and certificates) may be presented to the awardees in the subsequent annual conference.

(c) Registration fee for participation in conferences for members from other SAARC countries will be the same as that for Indians.

(d) The General Body reiterated their earlier decision that in 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. In addition to this, a letter of appreciation will be given to all other co-authors.

(e) Proposal for starting ISMS oration in the name of Prof. S.K. Bhattacharya was approved by the General Body unanimously. Dr. B.L. Verma may be requested to do the needful in consultation with Dr.(Mrs) M. Bhattacharya, i.e., collection of Rs. 10,000/- and finalisation of criteria etc.

(f) Any NRI interested in starting ISMS awards etc. in any name has to pay a minimum amount of US $ 1000.

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

Sd/-	Sd/-
Dr.P.S.S. Sundar Rao	Dr.K.R. Sundaram
President	General Secretary

FELLOWSHIP AND AWARDS OF ISMS FOR 1995

(A) FSMS

This year's FSMS award was bestowed on Dr. V.G. Kaliaperumal, Addl. Professor & Head, Department of Biostatistics, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-sciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore.

Dr. V.G. Kaliaperumal was born in 1940 in South Arcot District of Tamil Nadu in an Agricultural Family. After completing his school education, he passed his graduate course in Statistics from Loyala College, Madras in 1964 and Master's course in Statistics from Presidency College, Madras in 1966. He was awarded Doctorate Degree in Biostatistics in 1986 by the Bangalore University. He joined the NIMHANS in 1974. Before joining NIMHANS he worked in C.M.C. Vellore as Lecturer in Biostatistics.

Dr. V.G. Kaliaperumal developed the department of Biostatistics at NIMHANS steadily with the active cooperation of his colleagues. Presently this department has four faculty members with all the necessary supporting staff and facilities. So far, four candidates have obtained their Ph.D. degree in Biostatistics under his guidance. He has organized the fourth annual conference of the ISMS during 1986 and brought out the proceedings as well. He has received Prof. B.G. Prasad award for his research in epidemiology. He is a member of the Board of Management, and Academic Council of NIMHANS.

His areas of interest include the application of multivariate analysis in medical and allied fields, particularly in the problems related to brain and mind. He has devoted much of his time to the development of teaching medical statistics and research. His publications find place in both National and International Journals. The Society is highly honoured in bestowing its Fellowship on Dr. V.G. Kaliaperumal.

(B) AWARDS

(i) PROF. B.G. PRASAD AWARD:

This year, the paper entitled " Estimation of reduction in life time risk of cervical cancer through one life time screening", published in NEOPLASMA 40(4):255-58, 1993 was selected for this award. This award will be presented to its first author Mr. N.S. Murthy, during the next ISMS conference. Mr. Murthy is Dy. Director (Statistics), in Institute of Cytology and Preventive Oncology (ICMR), New Delhi.

(ii) SMT. SURAJ KALI JAIN AWARD:

This year, the paper entitled " A comprehensive Index for longitudinal monitoring of child health status" published in Indian Paediatrics, 32: 443-52; April, 1995, was selected for this award. This award will be presented to its first author Mr. L. Satyanarayana, during the next ISMS conference. Mr. Satyanarayana is Sr. Research officer in the Institute of Cytology & Preventive Oncology (ICMR), New Delhi.

(iii) PROF. P.V. SUKHATME AWARD:

The paper entitled "Age at which chest circumference overtakes head circumference in children" published in Indian Journal of Paediatrics, 62:89-94, 1995, was selected for this award. This award will be presented to its first author Dr. K.R. Sundaram, during the next ISMS conference. Dr. K.R. Sundaram is Addl. Prof. & Head, Department of Biostatistics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

(iv) Dr. R.N. SRIVASTAVA AWARD

This year, the paper entitled " Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) for Monitoring Immunisation Program", unpublished article, was selected for this award. The award will be given to its first author during the next ISMS conference. Dr. B.N. Murthy is Sr. Research Officer, IRMS, Indian Council for Medical Research, Madras.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
(31st Jan, 1996)

New (Life/Annual) Members

Mrs Raj Menon, New Delhi
Mr. K. Jayakrishnan, Vellore
Mr. Omprakash Srivastva, New Delhi
Dr. S. Shaffi Ahmed, Madras
Dr. M. Kachirayan, Madras
Mr. P. Jayabal, Madras
Ms. Nisha Kurian, Karigiri
Mr. P. Veeramani, Madras
Dr. R.S. Tyagi, New Delhi
Mr. Sanji P. Singh, Amritsar
Dr. Nihal Singh, New Delhi
Mrs. Asha Kamat, Mangalore
Mr. M. Choudhury, Bhopal
Mr. H.K. Singh, Bhopal
Mr. N.G. Sekharan, New Delhi
Mrs. Kalyani Vilas Ghodki, Wardha

VENUE OF THE XIV ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY

The XIV annual conference of ISMS will be held at Armed Forces Medical College, Pune 411 040 during November 30 - December 2, 1996 under the leadership of *Brig. V.W. Tilak*, Consultant and Head of the Department of Preventive and Social Medicine. The conference will be held alongwith a CME on Research Methodology and Clinical Epidemiology.

Medical Statisticians / Teachers / Researchers, Demographers and Computer Personnel, and Social Scientists, both from India and abroad are being invited to participate in the three-day programme. Though the general contributions on all aspects of Medical Statistics will be considered in the programme, the conference will particularly concentrate on:

The Research Questions, Issue of Validity, Confounding and Bias, Issues of Statistical Analysis and Interpretation in Research, Statistics in Non-communicable Diseases, Maternal and Child Health, Medical Demography and Family Planning, Clinical and Prophylactic Trials, Medical Information System and the Evaluation of Health Care and other miscellaneous topics related to Nutrition, Genetics, etc. We wish that members make it convenient to attend the Society's XIV annual conference to held in Pune in large numbers to make it a grand success.

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY (Dr. M. KACHIRAYAN)

The Society's headquarter has started functioning from February 1996 at the Institute for Research in Medical Statistics, Spur Tank Road, Chetput, Madras 600 031. At the outset, I would like to thank all the members for electing me as General Secretary and my colleague Mr. P. Jayabal as the Honorary Treasurer of ISMS for three years (1996-98). We feel greatly honoured and would use this opportunity to serve the Society as much as we could. We will be very happy to receive your suggestions which may help the Secretariat in achieving the objectives of the Society.

I request you to become a Life Member of the Society, if you are an Annual Member. I take this opportunity to request you all to enrol your colleagues as members of the Society, preferably as Life members. If there is a change in your address, please inform me immediately so that we can keep the mailing list up-to-date.

Also, I am happy to inform you all that the XIV Annual Conference of the ISMS will be held at the Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, during November 30 - December 2, 1996. Brig. V.W. Tilak, Consultant and Head of the Department of Preventive and Social Medicine may be contacted for further information.