

XXVII Annual Report of the Indian Phytopathological Society for the year 1973

Mr. President, Members of the Indian Phytopathological Society, Ladies and Gentlemen :

I am presenting herewith the 27th Annual report of the Society for the year 1973. Fifty three (53) new members joined the Society, 12 as life-members and 41 as ordinary members while 21 discontinued their membership. I regret to report the death of three (3) members—Prof. S. R. Vyas, Dr. K. D. Baghchee and Dr. G. T. Joshi. At the years' end the total number of members on Society's roll was 949 and that of subscribers 401.

During the year Vol. XXV, 2, 3 and 4, 1972 and Vol. XXVI (1) 1973, have been issued. Vol. XXVI, 2 1973 is being issued. We have given material for No. 3, XXVI, 1973, to the press, therefore, we are behind by one number.

The financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory. The amount to the credit of the Society in the SB Account with M/S National and Grindley's Bank Ltd (Lloyd's Branch) New Delhi and cash on hand together as on 30th November, 1973, was Rs. 30,558.51; in addition a sum of Rs. 10,000/- has been invested in 12 years National Defence Certificates and Rs. 40,000/- has been invested in Fixed Deposit Account for 5 years. Thus, the total assets amount to Rs. 80,558.51. Several cheques are still in the process of collection.

During the year the receipts amounted to Rs. 94,331.94 and expenditure to Rs. 94,095.18, thus leaving a balance of Rs. 236.76. We have paid the cost of printing of Vol. XXV, Nos. 1-4, 1972, Vol. XXVI, No. 1, 1973 and a part payment of No. 2 also. The printing of the journal continues to be in the hands of M/s Kapoor Art Press, New Delhi, as before.

I am happy to inform you that 8 more members—Dr. A. K. Sarbhoy, Dr. P. S. Bedi, Shri Shamsher Bahadur Mathur, Dr. D. K. Saha, Dr. M. S. Reddy, Dr. S. T. Tilak, Dr. Pritam Singh (Canada), and Dr. Avdesh Narain have expressed their desire to become Fellows of the Society.

I am glad to report that the 11th Mundkur Memorial Lecture is being delivered by Dr. R. Prasada, Emeritus Scientist, College of Agriculture, Jobner (Rajasthan). We are indeed thankful to him for accepting this assignment.

Plant Disease Problems

During the year, some more copies worth Rs. 1,080/- have been sold. This brings the total amount realised by way of sale proceeds of this volume to about Rs. 15,000/- out of a total of Rs. 25,000/- invested by the Society. There are still more than 1500 copies in stock. We are placing

before you a resolution for reducing the selling price to push up its sale so that it becomes possible to clear the stock and get back the money, invested in its publication.

Twentyfive years of Plant Pathology

I am happy to inform you that due to the untiring efforts of Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Editor-in-Chief, the Indian National Science Academy has agreed to publish this valuable publication. The material for publication is being processed in the INSA format. Dr. Raychaudhuri richly deserves our gratitude for all he did to get the approval of INSA to publish this volume.

Prof. M. J. Narasimhan Academic Award Contest

During the XXV Annual General meeting of the Society held at Botany Department, Panjab University, Chandigarh, on 2nd January, 1973, a contest for the award was held. Twelve (12) young scientists from different parts of the country took part. Drs. A. N. Mukhopadhyay and P. N. Patel, were declared to be the winners by the judges and the prize money of Rs. 500/- was equally divided between them. This year we have received 14 abstracts of papers to be presented, all of them have been approved for presentation.

Prof. S. N. Das Gupta's 70th Birthday Celebration

In accordance with the decision of the Executive Council at its meeting held on 30-4-1972 to celebrate the 70th Birthday of Prof. S. N. Das Gupta, former President and Honorary Fellow of the Society, a half day programme is being organised on the afternoon of 1st January, 1974. Prof. D. S. Kothari, President, Indian National Science Academy and former Chairman of University Grants Commission has kindly agreed to preside over the function for which the Society is highly indebted to him. The Society is also equally grateful to Prof. T. S. Sadasivan, former Director, University Botany Laboratories, Madras for accepting our invitation to give a talk "Unsolved problems of Plant Pathology" on this occasion. Prof. P. N. Mehra, Senior Professor and Head, Department of Botany, Punjab University, Chandigarh has kindly consented to preside over this lecture. We are grateful to Prof. Mehra for readily agreeing to our request to preside over this lecture.

Indian Plant Disease Reporter (IPDR)

As per decisions of the members at the General Body Meeting held at Chandigarh on 1-1-1973 a circular was sent to all the members of the Indian Phytopathological Society to have the opinion on starting this monthly publication. Only 74 members have come forward in support of this journal.

Revised Constitution and Bylaws

Copies of approved revised Constitution and Bylaws have been submitted to the Registrar of Societies, Delhi for his information and record and also it is being printed and issued to all members along with No. 2, XXVI, 1973, *Indian Phytopathology*.

Council Meetings

During the year under report, two meetings of the Council were held.

As you are aware the Annual General meetings of the Society are usually held in conjunction with the Indian Science Congress. We, therefore, rely very much on the organizers of the Science Congress for providing facilities and for local arrangements. We are extremely grateful to Prof. C. Mande, Prof. A. Gopalakrishna, local Secretaries in charge of accommodation and Prof. R. H. Sahasrabudhey for helping us in arranging the accommodation to our members and for providing the facilities to our meetings in the University campus.

We owe a deep debt of gratitude to Prof. Hatwalne, Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry and a local members of the Indian Phytopathological Society who has helped us in various ways to hold our meetings in this place.

We are equally grateful to Dr. S. Iyengar, Principal of the L. A. D. College for her ready cooperation and help in arranging the invocation song and the National Anthem from amongst the members of her college.

Finally, I wish to express my gratefulness to my colleagues at the Headquarters, Dr. M. M. Payak (Vice President), Mr. T. K. Nariani (Joint Secretary), Dr. M. S. Chatrath, (Treasurer) for their whole hearted cooperation and help whenever called for. I am extremely grateful to Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, Chief-Editor and Head, Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology for his advice and help at all times. I also wish to place on record my sincere thanks to the office bearers of the Society from outside headquarters for their cooperation and help whenever solicited. In the end I wish to add my special appreciation and gratefulness to Shri Girdhari Lalji for his untiring energy and patience in running the affairs of the Society in a smooth and efficient manner. He is going to retire in a couple of months from now and I hope the Society will continue to have his services on a full time basis after his retirement.