

**REPORT OF THE INDIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FOR THE  
YEAR 1981, PRESENTED AT THE 34TH GENERAL BODY MEETING  
HELD AT NEW DELHI ON DECEMBER 19, 1981**

Mr. President, Fellow Members of the Society, Ladies and Gentlemen ;

It is indeed a great pleasure to welcome a galaxy of Indian and foreign scientists at the 34th Annual General Body Meeting of our Society in continuation of 3rd International Symposium of Plant Pathology at New Delhi.

I am sorry to inform that six of our renowned Mycologists and Plant Pathologists Drs. K. M. Smith (Honorary Fellow), M. K. Hingorani, D. S. Bhandar, D. G. Gundu Rao, K. S. Bedi and R. G. Anderson left for their heavenly abode. We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and pray to God that their souls may rest in peace. On behalf of our Society I request you all to kindly stand for two minutes in silence to pay our homage to the departed souls.

It is indeed heartening to note that the numerical strength of our Society has increased by 212 members. Thus a total number of members as on November 24, 1981 stands 1235 excluding subscribers 400. During this year 142 have not paid their dues so far and it is my earnest request to them to kindly oblige us by clearing the dues as soon as possible.

You will be happy to note that the financial position of our Society continues to be fairly sound. The Society maintains saving bank accounts with Grindlays Bank Ltd., Syndicate Bank and Bank of India and the credit in saving accounts with these banks and cash in hand is Rs. 1,30,665.20 paise. In addition a sum of Rs. 60,000/- is in fixed deposit with Messers Grindlays Bank Ltd. for five years, due in 1982. A sum of Rs. 11,000/- received for M. J. Narasimhan Academic Award Contest has been put in fixed deposit in Syndicate Bank for 63 months, due in 1984. Thus the total assets amount to Rs. 2,01,665.20 paise. Some of the cheques are still in the process of collection. During the year, the receipts amount to Rs. 2,04,244.63 paise and expenditure amount to Rs. 1,77,099.29. Thus leaving a balance of Rs. 27,143.34 paise. We have paid the cost of printing of our journal, the Indian Phytopathology Vol. 33 (Nos. 2-4) of 1980 and Vol. 34 (Nos. 1-3) of 1981. We are grateful to Indian Council of Agricultural Research for their financial assistance of Rs. 10,000/- which they have given us for printing the journal. We are grateful to Drs. M. R. Siddiqui, R. P. Singh and D. K. Agarwal for doing the Internal Auditing of the accounts for 1980 and 1981 and they are further requested to help in the next year. The printing of the journal is in the hands of Messers Kapoor Art Press, New Delhi.

I am extremely happy to inform you that our journal is now upto date. I sincerely congratulate the Chief Editor Dr. H. K. Saksena and Editor Dr. J. P. Verma and also all the valuable referees, members of the Society and Editorial Board members for their excellent cooperation in bringing the journal upto date. Please give a hand to them.

I am glad to inform that the following 31 members viz., Drs. M. Abraham, V. K. Agarwal, H. O. Agarwal, Y. S. Ahlawat, S. C. Ahuja, S. Balakrishnan, Basant Ram, P. Bahadur, S. P. S. Beniwal, S. N. Chaturvedi, I. P. Chaubey, R. K. S. Chauhan, S. Devadath, L. V. Gangwane, A. P. Garg, S. S. Gowda, H. R. Kataria, S. S. Kore, C. B. P. Mishra, M. S. Mohjuddin, T. P. Mustafee, K. M. Ponnappa, C. G. Prakash Rao, A. Ramalingam, K. G. Ranganathaith, H. R. Reddy, K. D. Sharma, V. N. Shukla, A. P. Sinha, P. N. Singh and B. S. Thind, have been admitted as fellow of the Society.

#### **Lecture and other activities :**

The Society organized a number of lectures by eminent scientists both at the Headquarters and in different zones.

#### **Delhi Zone :**

Dr. R. D. Goos, Chairman of Botany Department and Secretary Mycological Society, America, U. S. A. delivered a lecture on "Biology of Black mildews" at the Division of Mycology & Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi on 30th June, 1981.

Dr. T. R. Nag Raj, Mycologist, Univ. of Waterloo, delivered a lecture on "Conidial appendages in Hyphomycetes" at the Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi on 4th July, 1981.

#### **North-Eastern Zone :**

A lecture entitled "Possibilities of occurrence of dormant varietal gene(s)" was delivered by Mr. Sangit Kumar, Scientist at Plant Pathology, ICAR Res. Complex, Shillong on 27th Nov., 81.

#### **Central Zone :**

Prof. R. S. Mehrotra, Head, Dept. of Botany, Kurukshetra Univ. delivered a lecture on "Wilt of piper beetle" at the Botany Dept., Osmania University Hyderabad, on 8.8.81.

Dr. M. R. Siddiqui, Head, Div. of Seed Technology, IARI, gave a talk on "Seed Pathology" at the Botany Dept., Osmania University Hyderabad on 9.8.81.

Dr. V. T. John, Sr. Plant Pathologist, AICRIP, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad spoke on "Virus diseases of rice and their control" on 21-11-81 Botany Dept., Osmania University, Hyderabad.

Dr. R. Reddy, Principal Virologist, Groundnut Improvement Programme, ICRISAT gave a lecture on "Identification and management of economically important virus diseases" in a seminar organised by Central zone members entitled "Disease problems of the region" on 21-11-81 at the Botany Dept. Osmania University, Hyderabad.

You will be happy to note that some honours and Awards have been conferred on our members :

Dr. S. P. Raychaudhuri, has been elected as first Indian Fellow of American Phytopathological Society, U. S. A.

Dr. Jeevan Prakash Verma and Dr. R. P. Singh have been awarded Hexamar Research and Development Award for Cotton Improvement.

We all join together and convey our heartiest congratulations to them for their achievements and hope that in future also the work of many other Plant Pathologists will be recognised in a similar manner.

**Mundkur Memorial Lecture :**

We are really very grateful to Prof. H. C. Govindu, Former Director of Instructions (Agri.), Agriculture College, Bangalore, for accepting our invitation to deliver the 19th Mundkur Memorial Lecture on "Green Revolution—its impact on Plant Diseases with special reference to Cereals and Millets".

**M. J. Narasimhan Academic Award Contest :**

This contest carries an award of Rs. 1000/- and a citation, has been held since 1972 to encourage young scientists. This year we have received seven papers for the competition.

**Plant Disease Problem :**

A few more copies worth Rs. 181.50 were sold. This brings the total amount collected by way of the sale proceeds of the volume to Rs. 21,346.30 paise out of Rs. 25,000/- invested by the Society.

**Committees :**

The two committees which were formed last year for suggesting the "Research priorities in Mycology and Plant Pathology and "Revision of the Syllabi and Curricula of Agricultural Universities" their reports are still awaited. I request the conveners Drs. D. N. Srivastava and R. S. Singh to submit the report as early as possible.

**Council Meeting :**

During the year under report, two meetings of the Council were held. However, in important matters, the views of the members of the Council were obtained through correspondence.

As per the decision of the Council no Panel Discussion and General paper reading session have been organised this year due to 3rd International Symposium on Plant Pathology which is just successfully completed. I congratulate the organizers on my behalf as well as on your behalf.

**Jeersannidhi Lecture Award :**

As you are aware, the Society received an offer from Dr. M. J. Thirumalachar for the institution of science lecture award to be given to one of the distinguished member of the Society and this year Dr. S. N. Dasgupta, a very senior and renowned Mycologist and Plant Pathologist and Honorary Fellow of the Society has accepted our invitation to deliver the Ist Jeersannidhi Award Lecture on "A discourse on the aquatic Phycomycetes of India".

**Annual Meeting :**

It was decided to hold the 34th Annual meeting of the Society at Delhi in continuation with the 3rd International Symposium on Plant Pathology. We are extremely grateful to Dr. H. K. Jain, Director, IARI, Dr. A. R. Seshadri, Dean and Joint Director, IARI, Dr. L. M. Joshi, Head, Div. of Mycology and Plant Pathology and to his colleagues who have taken this stupendous task for organising the meeting.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. R. L. Munjal, our worthy President for his guidance and advice in day to day functioning of the Society. It is my prime duty to thank all the members of Executive Council for their cooperation, active support and valuable suggestions in various ticklish matters. I am grateful to all the organizers who helped in various way to organise this meeting. I extend my special thanks to Secretariat staff at Headquarters without whose active cooperation, it would not be possible to run the vast affairs of the Society in an efficient manner.

Ladies and Gentleman, finally our sincere thanks to all of you and fellow members of the Society who have continued to repose their confidence in us.

Thank you,

(A. K. SARBHOY)  
*Secretary*