

**REPORT PRESENTED IN THE 36TH ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING  
HELD AT HISSAR, FEBRUARY 18, 1984**

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen :

Welcome to the 36th Annual General Body meeting of Indian Phytopathological Society. I sincerely hope, you enjoyed the deliberations of the Symposium on "Chemical Control of Plant Diseases", panel discussion and contributory paper sessions. The overwhelming response from our members for these meetings is highly encouraging.

### **Membership and Fellowship**

Present membership of the Society is 1165 which includes 74 new members. One hundred and ten members did not renew their membership in 1983.

It is a pleasure to inform you that the following 52 members have been admitted as Fellows of the Society.

Drs. G. Arjunan, S. S. Bains, N. Behera, R. S. Bilgrami, S. S. Chahal, G. G. Chaudhary, S. S. Cheema, B. G. Desai, R. S. Dhanda, P. K. Dubish, P. K. Garg, M. P. Ghewande, R. K. Jain, A. K. Kaul, R. V. Kodmelwar, S. J. Kolte, K. Krishnappa, T. N. Lakhapal, D. K. Maheshwari, B. Chandra Mouli, R. P. Naik, S. L. Naik, M. C. Nair, K. K. N. Nambiar, P. Narayanaswamy, B. Padhi, N. N. Padhi, S. K. Pan, D. J. Patel, P. L. Patil, B. K. Prasad, T. C. Radhakrishnan, P. Ranga Reddy, R. D. Rawal, A. K. Roy, R. M. Saxena, P. K. Sengupta, O. P. Sharma, S. K. Sharma, K. K. Sinha, R. K. Sinha, B. P. Singh, Harnam Singh, N. I. Singh, S. L. Singh, K. Srivaprakasam, R. B. Somani, R. C. Srivastava, B. A. Ullasa, A. Varma, J. P. Verma, C. S. K. Vijaykumar.

With a deep sense of sorrow I inform you about the sad and sudden demise of four of our members : Dr. S. N. Bhargava, Dr. S. K. Bose, Dr. S. C. Mathur and Dr. Jagdish Prasad Varma. We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and pray for the peace of their souls.

### **Financial position**

Financial position of the Society continues to be sound. The Society maintains Savings Bank accounts and fixed deposits in Bank of India, Grindlays' Bank Ltd. and Syndicate Bank. On 31.12.1983 the Society had a total of Rs. 97,213.99 in savings accounts and cash in hand, and Rs. 1,12,000.00 in fixed deposits of 60 to 63 months which will mature between 1984 and 1988. The amount in fixed deposits include donations received by the Society for organizing M. J. Narasimhan Academic Award Contests (Rs. 22000/-) and Jeersannidhi Lecture Award (Rs. 10,000/-).

You will be happy to know that the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has released the grant of Rs. 10,000/- for the year 1981 and we are hopeful that we will also receive ICAR grants for the subsequent years. These grants were held up by the ICAR due the delay in submission of audited account of the 3rd International Symposium of Plant Pathology (ISPP) held in December, 1981. The Society has also received a sum of Rs. 17,439.08 as savings of the 3rd ISPP. We are highly thankful to the Organizing Committee of the the 3rd ISPP for excellent financial management.

### **The Journal**

It is a matter of pride for all of us that our journal Indian Phytopathology is being published on schedule due to the untiring efforts of the Editorial Board, the Society staff, proof readers and the printers M/s Kapoor Art Press. We are thankful to the printers for their willing help in improvement of the quality of the journal.

In 1983, the Society paid the cost of printing of Indian Phytopathology Vol. 35(4), 1982 and Vol. 36 (1-3) 1983 which amounted to Rs. 1,17,632.14 as against Rs. 96,355.33 paid in the previous year. This increase (Rs. 21,276.81) was due to an increase in the number of published pages and publication cost by 7.5 per cent mainly on account of increase in the cost of paper. The cost will go on increasing. Even for No. 4 of Vol. 36 we will have to pay 12.5 per cent more on paper cost alone. The printers are also pressing hard for an increase in their rates, and in view of the prevailing inflation it is unavoidable.

As our financial resources are limited, to absorb this increase we will be forced to reduce the number of pages in the journal to maintain at least the present standard.

Today, actual cost of one volume of Indian Phytopathology is Rs. 70.00 which does not include postage (Rs. 10.00 per volume). It means that we subsidize the cost by 50 per cent for the members. Can we afford it?

In 1983 the journal was subscribed by 350 organizations in India and other countries. We need to increase the number of subscribers for which help from all the members is solicited.

### **Plant Disease Problems**

A limited number of copies amounting to Rs. 180/- were sold. This brings the total amount collected by way of sale proceeds of the volume to Rs. 22,633.00 out of Rs. 25,000/- invested by the Society.

### **Executive Council Meetings**

The Executive Council of the Society had two meetings (27.6.83 and 15.9.83) during the year.

### **FISAST Membership**

The Society has joined the newly formed Federation of Indian Societies of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (FISAST) by paying Rs. 1000/- as membership fee. Main objectives of FISAST are: coordination between scientific agricultural societies, the Government and international agencies for promotion of science.

### Addressing and mailing system

The Society has acquired a semi-automatic Bradma addressing system which will help in quick despatch of the journal to various members and subscribers. Many of our members have opted to receive copies of the journal by registered post. This has considerably reduced the number of misplaced/lost copies.

### Zonal activities

1983 has been a rather quiet year for zonal activities. Lectures by eminent scientists were organized in Delhi, East and West Zones.

#### Delhi Zone

The following lectures were organized in the Division of Mycology and Plant Pathology, IARI, New Delhi.

“Dianthoviruses—genetic analysis of their member viruses” by Prof. C. Hiruki, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada on 30th July, 1983.

“Mycotoxin problems in food and feed” by Prof. K. S. Bilgrami, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Botany and Dean, Faculty of Science, Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur (Bihar) on 12th September, 1983.

“Some aspects of the application of Plant cell protoplasts in virology and agriculture” by Prof. S. Sarkar, Dept. of Plant Pathology, University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, West Germany on 16th Sept., 1983.

#### East Zone

The following lectures were organized at O.U.A.T., Bhubaneswar :

“Type of problems in plant virus diseases and strategy of managing them in eastern zone” by Dr. G. S. Dubey, Prof. of Virology, R.A.U., Pusa (Bihar) on 22nd June, 1983.

“Role of rice agglutinin on bacterial leaf blight of rice” by Dr. S. K. Addy, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology, A. A. U., Jorhat (Assam) on 15th July, 1983.

“Mycotoxins and microbiology” by Dr. J. Lacey, Rothamsted Experimental Station, Harpenden, U. K. on 19th July, 1983.

“Tolerance of rice varieties to brown plant hoppers and virus diseases” by Dr. N. Panda, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Entomology, O.U.A.T., Bhubaneswar on 11th November, 1983.

“Disease complex in vegetables and other crops” by Dr. S. N. Das, Prof. and Head, Nematology, O.U.A.T., Bhubaneswar on 8th February, 1984.

#### West Zone

The following lectures were organized at Marathwada University, Aurangabad (M. S.) :

“Biological control of plant pathogens” by Dr. R. S. Mehrotra, Head, Dept. of Botany, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra (Haryana) on 29th September, 1983.

“Mycoplasmas and plant diseases” by Dr. H. C. Dube, Reader, Dept. of Biosciences, Sardar Patel University, Vallabha-Vidyanagar (G. S.) on 1st October, 1983.

### Annual Meeting

#### *Resolutions*

The following four resolutions were approved by the General Body of the Society :

1. A regular subscribing member (as distinct from life member) with a standing of over thirty years should be made life member of the Society with attendant rights and privileges.
2. The number of Honorary Fellows of the Society should be increased to twelve.
3. The annual membership fee should be raised to Rs. 50.00 from present Rs. 40.00 for annual members and Rs. 40.00 from present Rs. 30.00 for student members.
4. The application fee for the Fellowship of the Society should be raised to Rs. 50.00 from present Rs. 20.00.

The General Body also approved the recommendations of the Executive Committee that (a) in view of the increase in the cost of living the allowances of full time and part-time staff be raised, (b) for efficient despatch of the journal to the members a new clerk should be appointed, and (c) the next Annual Meeting of the Society should be held at Lucknow, Bhagalpur or Parbhani.

#### *Special Lectures*

We are highly grateful to Prof. C. V. Subramanian for kindly accepting our invitation to deliver the 21st Mundkur Memorial Lecture on “Fusaria and Fusarioses—a century of progress”, and to Prof. B. S. Mehrotra for kindly accepting to deliver the Jeersannidhi Award lecture on “Thermophilic Fungi—a biological enigma and tool for the microbiologists”.

#### *Symposium and Contributory papers*

This year we received 310 papers for presentation of which 257 were included in the programme, 35 could not be included as at least one of the authors had contributed more than two papers, and 18 papers arrived too late for inclusion. Abstracts of the papers presented in the meeting will be published in Indian Phytopathology. Efforts will also be made to publish the proceedings of the symposium on “Chemical Control of Plant Diseases”. We are indeed, grateful to all the speakers for kindly accepting our invitation and making the symposium a grand success. We are particularly thankful to Dr. K. D. Pahalra and Dr. D. N. Srivastava for their guidance and help in organizing the symposium.

*Panel discussion on 'Durable Resistance'*

The panel discussion on durable resistance generated considerable interest. As a follow up we will try to organize a symposium on the subject at a convenient place and time.

*M. J. Narasimhan Academic Award*

A. *Lecture award* : Thirteen papers were received for this contest of which eight were actually presented. Congratulations to Dr. H. S. Rewal for winning the award this year for his paper "Laboratory evaluation of wheat germplasm against loose smut".

B. *Paper award* : I have a good news, Dr. M. J. Thirumalachar has kindly donated a sum of Rs. 11,000/- to institute another award of Rs. 1000/- each in the name of his father late Prof. M. J. Narasimhan for the best paper published by a scientist of any nationality in every volume of Indian Phytopathology. A Committee has been constituted to frame rules for the award which will be published in due course.

**Acknowledgements**

We are highly grateful to Shri P. P. Caprihan, former Vice-Chancellor and Shri L. D. Kataria, present Vice-Chancellor, Haryana Agricultural University for providing the facilities and to Dr. J. N. Chand, Chairman, Local Organizing Committee and other members of the Committee for their great efforts in organizing this meeting.

We are extremely thankful to all the members of the society for their active participation in the meeting.

In the end I would like to express my gratitude to all the members of the Executive Council and staff at the headquarters for their guidance and generous help in the functioning of the Society.

Thank you,

ANUPAM VARMA  
*Secretary*