

## Report of the Secretary Presented at 49th Annual General Body Meeting of Indian Phytopathological Society at R.D. Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur, February 17, 1997

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

I have great pleasure in welcoming you all to the 49th Annual General Body Meeting of the Society and presenting to you the Annual Report for 1996.

The Society is grieved to inform that four of our Plant Pathologists, Prof. K.S. Bilgrami, Bhagalpur; Dr. A.K. Banerjee, Kanpur; Dr. Mohd. Kursheed Khan IARI, New Delhi; and Dr. R.M. Sharda, Chandigarh left for their heavenly abode. We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and may God rest their souls in peace.

It is indeed heartening to note that apart from 4 Lecture Awards, 21 papers were received for National Symposium on "*Emerging Issues in Plant Pathology*" out of which 13 speakers presented their papers during the meeting. We are extremely grateful to Dr. V.N. Pathak for delivering Mundkur Memorial Lecture; Dr. L.V. Gangawane for Prof. M.S. Pavgi Award Lecture; Dr. B.M. Singh for Jeersannidhi Award Lecture and Dr. R.A. Singh for Prof. M.S. Pavgi Award Lecture for 1995. The topics were well chosen by the speakers and would be valuable source of reference for future.

The total number of members as on December 31, 1996 stands at 1411, excluding 230 subscribers. During 1996, 113 new members joined the Society while 231 did not renew their membership. I earnestly request them to please clear the dues as soon as possible.

During 1996, 188 manuscripts were received for publication in Indian Phytopathology Vol. 49. Due to painstaking efforts of Chief Editor and Editor 3rd and 4th issues of Vol. 48 of 1995 and Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of Vol. 49 (1996) of Indian Phy-

topathology were published while No. 4 of Vol. 49, is in the press. The members are happy with the standard and timely publication of the Journal. I am glad to announce that research paper of Drs. Vivek, S. Sidhartha, D.V. Singh, K.D. Srivastava and R. Aggarwal on "*Some epidemiological aspects of Karnal bunt of wheat*", published in Indian Phytopathology Vol. 48: 419-426, 1995 has been adjudged as the best.

This year, 98 papers were received for poster session and only 50 were presented. The poster paper entitled "*Variation for Karnal bunt and powdery mildew resistance among somaclones and doubled haploids of bread wheat*" by K.D. Sharma, B.M. Singh and R.S. Chauhan from Palampur has been recommended for award of IPS Medal for the best poster presentation. In addition, two posters, namely *Prevalence and diagnosis of betelvine diseases and their management* by Mukesh Srivastava and Udit Narain from Kanpur and *Development of VA-mycorrhizal fungi in different bamboos in bambusetum* by Jamaluddin, K.K. Chandra and Pratiksha Chaturvedi, from Jabalpur, have been recommended for Commendation Certificates. Our heartiest congratulations to them.

Six young scientists contested for Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Merit Academic Award. I have great pleasure to announce that judges have recommended this award to Dr. T. Mukesh Kumar, IARI, New Delhi for his work on *Coat protein mediated resistance against potato virus Y in tobacco*. A Commendation Certificate was recommended to Dr. Uma Devi for her paper *Isozymic and serological variability among isolates of Aschochyta rabiei, the causal organism of chickpea blight* from IARI, New Delhi.

You will be happy to note that the Society

will be celebrating its Golden Jubilee in November 1997. An International Conference on "*Integrated Plant Disease Management for Sustainable Agriculture*" will be held at New Delhi from 11-15 November, 1997. I appeal all the members of the Society to participate in the Golden Jubilee function and make it a grand success.

Several recommendations were made in the Executive Council Meeting which are put for your kind consideration and approval:

Application of 113 Scientists for admission as new members of IPS were approved.

Thirteen members of IPS namely Drs. S.D. Bhardwaj, S.G. Bhardwaj, Sushma Nema, A.S. Patil, A.K. Jain, J.K. Jain, A.V. Mathew, R.C. Rajak, K.P. Singh, S.N. Srivastava, K.S. Verma, M.M. Ansari and T.G. Nageshwara Rao were admitted as Fellows of Indian Phytopathological Society (FPSI).

After a detailed discussion it was decided to nominate the following persons for various Lecture Awards for 1997:

- (a) Mundkur Memorial Lecture - Dr. G.S. Shekhawat, Shimla
- (b) Prof. S.N. Dasgupta Memorial Lecture - Dr.R.P.Purukayastha, Calcutta
- (c) Jeersanidhi Lecture Award - Dr. P.Vidhyasekaran, Coimbatore
- (d) Prof. M.S. Pavgi Lecture Award - Dr. B.L. Jalali, Hisar

Resolution proposed by Dr. C.D.Mayee, President Elect (as directed by last G.B. at Ludhiana) to improve the financial position of the Society was considered by E.C. and it was decided that the Society's membership fees should be raised as follows :

- (a) Life Membership from Rs.1500/- to Rs.2500/-.
- (b) Annual Membership from Rs. 100/- to Rs. 150/-.

(c) Student Membership from Rs. 85/- to Rs. 100/-.

(d) FPSI fee from Rs. 150/- to Rs. 500/-.

Proposal of publication of abstracts of IPS Annual and Zonal Chapter meetings in Indian Phytopathology was considered by the E.C. and it was decided that the Evaluation Committee of Annual Meeting will recommend good quality abstracts and also Zonal Presidents/Councillors of Zonal Chapters will select 15 best abstracts of high standard from each Zonal Chapter and these selected abstracts will be published in the Journal. It was also made mandatory for best Poster Paper Award recipient to submit full paper for its publication in Indian Phytopathology.

The matter about the utilization and upgradation of IPS computer was discussed and after detailed discussion it was decided by the E.C. that this matter should be dropped at present due to financial constraints.

Regarding the formation of subject matter subcommittees on the lines of ISPP, it was decided that necessary action will be taken up after Golden Jubilee Conference in Nov. 1997.

E.C. members felt that good publicity should be given through Indian Phytopathology via order form to obtain orders for coloured projection slides for users as a teaching aid.

Since the cost of paper has increased tremendously it would be appropriate henceforth to print the Journal on good quality J.K. Bond paper instead of imported art paper to minimise the cost of printing.

It was decided to raise the D.A. of E.C. members from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 100/- with maximum limit not exceeding Rs. 500/- with immediate effect.

It was also decided that all the Zonal Presidents will present their Zonal reports during Annual Meeting of the Society.

It was decided that the names of Honorary

Fellows should appear in the Indian Phytopathology alongwith E.C. and Editorial Board members.

Since we are going to celebrate Golden Jubilee of the Society during 1997, it was decided that IPS Golden Jubilee 1947-1997 will be printed on the cover page of the Indian Phytopathology Vol. 50.

We are very much thankful to Indian Council of Agricultural Research for providing the financial assistance of Rs. 70,000/- (Rupees Seventy thousand only) for the publications of Indian Phytopathology for the year 1995-96 and 1996-97. This year 1997-98 the Council has increased the financial assistance of Rs. 60,000/- (Rupees Sixty thousand only). The Society is grateful to the Council for this timely help.

Prof. Anupam Varma, IARI has been elected the President Elect. The Executive Council has nominated Drs. U.N. Saikia and P.K. Dutta as Zonal President and Councillor of Eastern Chapter. The Executive Council for 1997 will be as follows:

President - Dr. C.D. Mayee, President Elect - Prof. Anupam Varma; Secretary - Dr. Dharam Vir Singh; Joint Secretary - Dr. K.D. Srivastava; Treasurer - Dr. D.K. Agarwal; Chief Editor - Dr. A.K. Sarbhoy; Editor - Dr. Mahendra Pal.

Zonal Presidnets and Councillors are : R.H. Singh and Rashmi Aggarwal (Delhi); S.S. Aujla and J.S. Dhiman (Northern); Udit Narayan and R.G. Chaudhury (Mid-Eastern); U.N. Saikia and P.K. Dutta (Eastern nominated); P.C. Trivedi and Asha Shivpuri (Central); M.U. Vaishnav and B.K. Kikani (Western); R.D. Rawal and M. Krishan Reddy (Southern).

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. A.N. Mukhopadhyaya, our worthy President for his guidance and advice in day to day functioning of the Society. I also take this opportunity to thank Chairmen and memebtrs of different sessions for conducting the proceedings nicely. It is my prime duty to thank all the members of the Executive Council for their co-operation, advice, support and suggestions in various matters. I am particularly grateful to Dr. A.K. Sarbhoy who has conducted the proceeding of G.B. under his chairmanship.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank you all for being with us and making this Meeting a grand success and in the last but not the least to staff of Headquarters particularly to Shri Girdhari Lal Ji, Rajendra Prasad and Upendra.

(D.V. Singh)  
Secretary