

## Report of the Secretary presented at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Body Meeting of the Indian Phytopathological Society held at Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal, February 15-17, 2000.

Mr. President, Members of Indian Phytopathological Society, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my pleasant duty to welcome you to the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Body Meeting of the Society at Karnal. It gives me great pleasure to present before you the report of various activities of the Society during 1999.

The Society is grieved to inform you that two of our renowned Plant Pathologists and Honorary Fellow Dr. M.J. Thirumalachar, Prof R.N. Tandon; former Presidents of the Society, Dr. A.P. Mishra and Dr. V.V. Chenulu and distinguished Dr. Mohit Singh left for their heavenly abode. We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and pray to God that their soul may rest in peace.

I wish to inform you that during 1999 a Mid-Term E.C. Meeting of the Society was held at DWR, Karnal on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1999. The E.C. members discussed various issues related to improvement of Indian Phytopathology, finances and other activities of the Society. The total membership of the Society as on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1999 stands 1507 including 162 new members. The number of subscribers during 1999 was 248. During 1999 Society received 231 manuscripts for publication in Indian Phytopathology. The Society published all the four issues with in calendar year and also brought out 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> issues of last year Volume 51. The credit for timely publication and improving the quality goes to our Chief Editor Dr. D.K. Mitra and Editor -Dr. R.K. Jain. I take this opportunity to inform the house that publication of six issues of the journal could be possible due to painstaking and sincere efforts of my colleague Dr. K.D. Srivastava, who managed the finances of the Society very economically and saved money for payments.

Dr. S. Nagarajan delivered very informative 52<sup>nd</sup> Presidential Address on "Plant Pathology in the Process of Agricultural Change : The Past, Present and Future" which was chaired by Dr. S. P. Raychoudhari. In this Meeting, two Award Lectures were delivered by eminent Plant Pathologists of the country. The Society is grateful to Dr. K.H. Anahosur, for delivering

Mundkur Memorial Lecture and Dr. Bineeta Sen for Jeersannidhi Award Lecture. I am indeed happy to inform the house that six Zonal Chapters of the Society remained very active and organized symposia and discussions on current aspects of regional importance. We congratulate Zonal Presidents and Councillors for their sincere efforts.

Five young scientists nominated by Zonal Chapters participated in Prof M.J. Narasimhan Academic Merit Award Contest. The Judging Committee has recommended the papers presented by Mr. T. S. S. K Patro (New Delhi) on "*Expression of plasmid-borne characters in Xanthomonas axonopodis pv. vignaeradiatae*" and by Mr. A. S. Sivakumar (New Delhi) on "*Cloning of luffa leaf distortion mosaic virus genome for preparation of diagnostic probes*" for this award. Jointly our congratulation to them. The papers presented by Mr. Md. Akram (Pantnagar), Miss Prachi and Miss Preeti Aggrawal (Palampur) were recommended for Commendation Certificates.

The Society organized National Symposium on the "*Role of Resistance in Intensive Agriculture*" on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> February 2000. In this Symposium 24 valuable papers were presented. Society is grateful to Dr. Ravi Singh and Dr. E. Duveiller from CIMMYT, Prof C.H. Kongel from Germany and Dr. Ved Malik from USA for their participation. I am sure that the deliberations of the symposium would be an important source for deciding the course of plant disease management in new millennium. The poster session was also organized and 160 papers were received for presentation. The poster paper entitled "*Plant disease detection by photoacoustic spectroscopy-A new technique*" by Drs. K.P. Singh and A.K. Rai (Pantnagar) was selected for the award of IPS Medal. Drs. Mandavi Singh, H.S. Chaube and R.P. Singh (Pantnagar), and Dr. D.P. Singh and associates have been recommended for Commendation Certificate.

1. The Meeting of the Executive Council of the Society was held at DWR, Karnal on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2000. The following important decisions taken

during E. C. Meeting have been approved by the Governing Body of the Society:

#### Journal

- a. The colour plates/photograph will be published only when advance of Rs. 3000 is received from the authors. The remaining amount, if any, may be paid along with the galley proof
- b. A page on innovations, patents and discoveries/designs that have commercial prospects be published in the Journal.
- c. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of IPS organized at Karnal, created an Endowment Fund valued Rs. 50,000/- to publish every year one review article in the Journal. It will be called as "K.C. Mehta and Manoranjan Mitra Memorial Review". The EC approved the proposal in principle.

#### Finances

- a. The Annual Membership fee was enhanced from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 and for students from Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 from January 2000.
- b. Registration fee paid for E.C. Member to the hosting organization should be withdrawn.
- c. The memento given on various occasions can be done away with and well designed scroll of honour can be given instead of memento.
- d. Impressed money should not exceed Rs. 10,000 at a time.
- e. E.C. Considered the proposal of enhancement of salary of the staff of IPS Head Quarter and accepted the following pay structure w.e.f. January 2000: Business Manager Rs. 3500; Computer Assistance Rs. 2500; Editorial Assistant Rs. 1000; Office Assistant Rs. 600 and Peon Rs. 1200.
- f. Expenditure on account of abstract printing should be brought down.

#### Zonal Chapters

- a. The functioning of Zonal Chapters of IPS was critically reviewed. It was decided unanimously that seed money (Rs. 2500) given to Chapters should be withdrawn and the Zonal Chapters may generate their own -money for holding the Zonal Meeting.

- b. The Zonal Chapters for which valid nominations for election to the office of Zonal President and Zonal Councillor were not received, the E.C. recommended the following members to be nominated: - **Delhi Zone** : President - Dr. S.B. Sharma Councillor - Dr. S.C. Dhawan (New Delhi); **Central Zone**: President - Dr. (Ms) Asha Shivpuri (Jaipur), Councillor - Dr. (Ms) Vijai Laxmi Majumdar (Jaipur); **Eastern Zone** : President - Dr. D.N. Upadhyaya (Medziphema), Councillor - Dr. Dahio (Medziphema)

#### Society Awards/ Honours

- a. Two senior most Presidents of IPS- Dr. L.M. Joshi (New Delhi) and Dr. G. Rangaswami (Salem) were nominated as Honorary Fellows of the Society.
  - b. Six members namely Drs. B.S. Rathore, N.N. Patil, Dileep Kumar, N. Sathyanaryana, R.B. Gaur and S.N. Singh were admitted as Fellow of Indian Phytopathological Society (FPSI).
  - c. The Award for the Best Paper published in Indian Phytopathology Vol. 51, 1998 was considered. There was no uniform pattern followed by all the judges in evaluation and therefore, EC recommended sending back the papers to judges and then put up the case to next EC.
  - d. The E.C. recommended the nomination of the following scientists for various Lecture Award: **Mundkar Memorial Lecture Award** (at 53<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting) - Dr. S.S. Chahal (Ludhiana) and **Jeersannidhi Lecture Award** (at 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting) - Dr. A.K. Roy (Bhagalpur).
2. Detailed discussions were held on other agenda items and following decisions were taken :
    - a. To institute an award in the memory of Late Dr. A.P. Misra with a fix deposit of Rs. One Lakh was discussed. It was agreed in principle to institute an award as "Outstanding Plant Pathologist" which will be awarded every two years provided the terms and conditions of the Society are acceptable to Dr. A.K.Misra.
    - b. The conversion of annual membership completing 30 years to life membership was discussed and its was agreed upon that the conversion will not entitle them to receive the journal but such members will receive normal mail from Society.

**3. Resolutions**

- (i) The resolution dealing with the need to harmonize the annual activities of the three Plant Pathological Societies was presented before G.B. It was agreed upon that all the Societies will hold a National Symposium jointly which will minimize wastage of fund and time. EC welcomed the suggestions and authorized Dr. B.L. Jalali to take further initiative in this matter.
- (ii) The resolution regarding inclusion of members outside IPS Secretariat to serve as observers for election to various offices of IPS was discussed. This resolution further reads that three Past President of IPS will nominate the Election Officer to keep transparency in operation. The EC strongly felt that the conduct of election is fair, transparent and would request General Body consider it in the larger interest of the Society. The G.B. did not approve the resolution and status quo will be maintained.
4. Based on results given by the Vote Counting Committee, elected, unopposed and nominated by E.C. The E.C. for 2000 will be as follows: President - Dr. B.L. Jalali; President Elect - Dr. G.S. Shekhawat; Secretary - Dr. Dharam Vir Singh; Joint Secretary - Dr. R.C. Sharma; Treasurer - Dr. K.D. Srivastava; Chief Editor - Dr. D.K. Mitra; Editor - Dr. R.K. Jain; Ex-officio: Dr. D. V. Singh, Head, Division of Plant Pathology and Zonal Presidents and Councillors - Dr. S.B. Sharma and Dr. S.C. Dhawan (Delhi Chapter); Dr. D.P. Singh and V.K. Maheshwari (Northern Chapter); Dr. Jayashree Deshpande and Dr. V.V. Datar (Western Chapter); Dr. R.P. Tewari and Dr. A.K. Saxena (Southern Chapter); Dr. (Mrs.) Asha Shivpuri and Dr. (Mrs.) Vijai Laxmi Majumadar (Central Chapter) and Dr. D.N. Upadhyaya and Dr. A.L. Dahio (Eastern Chapter).
5. The Proposal of Prof D. Lalitha Kumari, Director, CAS in Botany, University of Madras to hold the

53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society at Chennai was accepted.

6. On behalf of the Society, I thankfully acknowledge the financial assistance of Rs. 60,000 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Rs. 50,000 from National Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. S. Nagarajan, our worthy President for his guidance, advice, encouragement and support in day to day functioning of the Society. My sincere thanks are due to Dr. B.L. Jalali for his support and guidance. I am also thankful to chairmen and members of different committee's and sessions who conducted the proceedings smoothly. I thank very profusely the Director, DWR - Dr. S. Nagarajan and Dr. D.P. Singh, Secretary Local Organizing Committee for nicely organizing the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting at Karnal. My sincerely thanks are due to Dr. D.K. Mitra, Chief Editor, Dr R.K. Jain, Editor along with the members of Editorial Board and referees for their cooperation and timely publication of the journal. I am also thankful to Dr. K.D. Srivastava, Treasurer and Dr. R.C. Sharma, Joint Secretary for their day to day help in Society affairs. It is my prime duty to thank all the members of Executive Council for their kind cooperation, advise, support and suggestion in various matters. I put on record to thank various organizations and companies who gave funds to organise various activities of the Society. Finally, I take this opportunity to thank our Head Quarters staff Shri. R.L.P. Singh, Shri Lalit Saini, Dr. Birendar Singh and Shri Upendra for there hard work and support.

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

( D.V. Singh )  
Secretary