

## Report of the Secretary presented at the 54<sup>th</sup> General Body Meeting of the Indian Phytopathological Society held at CPCRI, Kasaragod, Kerala, January 22-25, 2002

Mr. President, Members of Indian Phytopathological Society, Ladies and Genglemen. It is my pleasant duty to welcome you all to the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting held at CPCRI Campus, Kasaragod. I present before you various activities of the Society held during 2001.

The Society is grieved to inform you that one of our senior most Honorary Fellow Dr. T.S. Sadasivan and three of our renowned Plant Pathologists and Life Members of Society viz.. Dr. A.K. Lambat (Nagpur), Dr. Dharam Singh (IARI, Karnal) and Dr. Wazid Md. Khan (Aligarh) left for their heavenly abode. This year the Mid-term E.C. Meeting of the Society was held at IARI, New Delhi on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2001. The E.C. members discussed various issues, like the improvement of the journal, finances and other activities of the Society. Two new members namely Dr. Dharamvir and Dr. M.M. Payak were inducted as Members of Advisory Board in IPS.

The Society purchased a new Pentium IV Computer with laser printer against the special grant of Rs. 98,000.00 given by ICAR. The total membership of the Society as on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2001 stands at 1650 including 75 Life Members and 250 new members. During 2001 the number of subscribers subscribing to the journal has increased to 200.

In the absence of Dr. G.S. Shekhawat, President, IPS (CPRI, Shimla) Dr. S.M. Paul Khurana (CPRI, Shimla) presented the 54<sup>th</sup> Presidential Address on his behalf on "*Integrated Disease Management for Potato Improvement in India*" which was chaired by Prof. C. Manoharachary, President-elect of IPS from Hyderabad.

During the Annual Meeting two Lecture Awards

were presented by eminent Plant Pathologists of the country. The Society is extremely grateful to Dr. Y.R. Sharma (Calicut) for delivering Mundkur Memorial Lecture Award and to Dr. Satyavir for Prof. M.S. Pavgi Lecture Award.

Six Zonal Chapters of the Society remained very active and organized symposia during the Zonal Meetings on important aspects of plant diseases. I congratulate Zonal Presidents and Councillors for their sincere efforts and activities.

Society published 115 manuscripts in *Indian Phytopathology* Vol. 54 (2001). The Society published 4<sup>th</sup> issue of Vol. 53 (2000) and 4 issues of Vol. 54 of (2001). In addition to the timely publication, the standard of the journal also improved and its cover has been redesigned. The credit goes to our Chief Editor Dr. P. Bahadur and Editor Dr. R.K. Jain for their painstaking efforts.

The National Symposium on "Crop Protection & WTO - An Indian Perspective " was organised during this Meeting. 220 papers were presented and a very good information has been generated on the subject. Many invited speakers presented their views on the theme of symposium.

During the meeting 119 scientists and students presented their significant research findings through posters. A Committee evaluated the posters and recommended that the poster paper presented by Rashmi, A.R. and Rohini Iyer CPCRI, Kasaragod (Kerala) on "Characterisation of *Phytophthora* from coconut" was selected as the best poster paper for the award of Prof. K.P.V. Menon Best Poster Paper Award. The papers presented by K. Madhusudhanan (M.S. Swaminathan Res. Foundation, Kalpetta) and R. Chandra Mohanan (CPCRI, Kayangulam, Kerala) entitled "Effect of certain factors on the yield of *Pleurotus sajor-caju*

(Fr.) Singer on Areca wastes" and by P. Chowdappa, V. Somala, K. Vinaya Gopal and N. Saraswathy from CPCRI, Vittal, Karnataka entitled "First report of immature nut fall caused by *Phytophthora meadii*" have been recommended for Commendation Certificates.

9 young scientists nominated by Zonal Chapters participated in Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Merit Academic Award Contest. The Judging Committee recommended the paper presented by Ms. N. Padmaja (IARI, New Delhi) entitled "Activation of defense associated enzymes (peroxidase and phenyl alanine ammonia lyase) in cotton" for this Award. Our heartiest congratulations to her. The paper presented by S. Maruthasalam, K. Kalpna, D. Sudhakar, R. Samaiyappan, R. Velazhan and P. Balasubramanian from TNAU, Coimbatore entitled "Gene pyramiding in indica rice varieties by transformation with Xa21, chitinase (Chi 11) and thaumatin-like protein (TLP) through particle bombardment" has been recommended for Commendation Certificate.

Several recommendations made in the Executive Council were considered and approved by G.B.

## Journal

It was decided that the society should hire Professional proof readers to improve the quality of the journal.

1. a) Applications of 350 scientists for admission as IPS members were approved.
  - b) Admission fee for new members be raised to Rs. 50.00 as against Rs. 10.00.
  - c) Rs. 100.00 per page may be charged for reprints in addition to Rs. 100.00 as postal charges per annum from a member whose paper is published in the journal.
  - d) Awardees of various lectures awards will be hounoured by presenting a shawl and a scroll of hounour.
  - e) Awardees of M.J. Narasimhan Merit Academic Award will be given a medal and a certificate instead of cash prize as at present.
- f) Zonal Chapters should get their accounts audited by their respective Zonal Chapter Meets and send it to IPS, Headquarter for reconciliation OR the accounts of Zonal Chapter should be verified by two to three persons of their respective zone who are members of the Society.
  - g) Delhi Zone Chapter should also open its account for its Zonal Chapter Meet.
  - h) The GB accepted the recommendation of the EC to waive off Rs. 2500.00 as outstanding advance against Dr. B.B. Sawant to settle the accounts of IPS for final auditing. This is being done as a special case as Dr. Dr. Sawant is not traceable even after repeated reminders for many years.
  - i) The GB approved name of Dr. M.M. Payak for nomination as Honorary Fellow of the Society.
  - j) The venue of 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Indian Phytopathological Society will be at Hyderabad as requested by Prof. C. Manoharachary and Dr. Apparao Podile.
  - k) For Zonal Chapters for which valid nominations for election to the office of Zonal President and Zonal Councillor were not received, E.C. recommended the following members to be elected. **Eastern Zone:** President: Dr. K.N. Bhagbati and Councillor : Dr. Robin Gogoi; **Central Zone:** President: Dr. Apparao Podile, Councillor : Dr. Nageshwara Rao; **Southern Zone:** President: Dr. V. Muniappa and Councillor:Dr. M. Krishna Reddy.
  - l) The GB discussed at length the criteria for the award of FPSI and resolved that apart from 10 best research papers 10 years of standing as member of the Society, is essential Emphasis should also be given to awards received, release of varieties, citation for distinguished research work as an additional criteria for consideration for FPSI eligibility.
2. E.C. recommended the nomination of the following scientists for various Lecture Awards:

- (i) Mundkhar Memorial Lecture Award (2002) - Dr. V. Raghunathan, Plant Protection Advisor, Directorate of Plant Protection, Storage & Quarantine, NH 4, Faridabad - 121002, Haryana
- (ii) M.S. Pavgi Award Lecture Award (2005) - Prof. Y. S. Ahlawat, Division of Plant Pathology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi -110012

### 3. Society Awards:

- a. Four members of IPS namely Drs. A.N. Rai (Sagar), Mukesh Srivastava (Kanpur), K.M.P. Sinha (Madhipura) and N.P. Eswara Reddy (Thirupati) have been admitted as Fellow of Indian Phytopathological Society (FPSI).
- b. The research papers published in Indian Phytopathology Vol. 52 (1999) were critically evaluated by a Committee of 4 judges and the paper entitled "**Revisionary study of the genus *Melampsora* on Euphorbiaceae**" published in Indian Phytopathology Vol. 52 (4): 370-376 (1999) by Dr. G. Bagyanarayana and "**Cloning and Detection of Rice tungro Bacilliform viruses in plants and leaf hoppers by nucleic acid hybridization**" by G. Radhakrishnan and F.R. Niazi in Indian Phytopath. Vol. 53(3): 250-255 (2000) have been adjudged as Best Research Papers for Prof. M.J. Narasihman Medal Award.
- b. **Dr. A.P. Misra Memorial Life Time Achievement Award** for the biennial 2000-2001 has been awarded to Dr. Abrar Md. Khan (AMU, Aligarh) for his life long contributions.
- c. **Dr. K.C. Mehta and Manoranjan Mitra Award** for the year 2001, the name of Dr. R. Sridhar (CRRRI, Cuttack) has been recommended for writing a review article for publication in IPS.
4. The constitution of the E.C. for 2002 will be as follows:

Srivastava, Chief Editor-Prof. P. Bahadur, Editor-Dr. R.K. Jain, Foreign Member- Prof. J.P. Tewari

Zonal Presidents and Councillors-

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| Dr. R.C. Sharma and<br>Dr. S.N. Rai          | (Delhi Chapter)       |
| Dr. R.S. Singh and<br>Dr. S.S. Kang          | (Northern Chapter)    |
| Dr. R.B. Singh and<br>Dr. A.K. Singh         | (Mid-Eastern Chapter) |
| Dr. K.N. Bhagwati and<br>Dr. Robin Gogoi     | (Eastern Chapter)     |
| Dr. Apparao Podile and<br>Dr. Nageshwara Rao | (Central Chapter)     |
| Dr. V. Muniyappa and<br>Dr. M. Krishna Reddy | (Southern Chapter)    |
| Dr. Sheoraj and<br>Dr. S.A.M.H. Naqvi        | (Western Chapter)     |

5. The Society thankfully acknowledges the financial assistance of Rs. 60000/- for publication of the journal by Indian Council of Agricultural Research as well as Rs. 98,000/- for purchase of Computer.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. G.S. Shekhawat, our worthy President for his guidance, advice, encouragement and support in day to day functioning of the Society. I am also thankful to Chairmen and members of different sessions for conducting the proceedings nicely. I thank very profusely to Dr. Rohini Iyer Head (Plant Protection), and to the Director, DR. V. Raghunathan, CPCRI, Kasargod, and also to Chairmen and other members of various Organizing Committees for their whole hearted support in hosting the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and National Symposium at Kasargod as well as to staff members for rendering their valuable help in various ways for making the Meeting a grand success. It is my prime duty to thank all the members of E.C. for their cooperation, advice, support and suggestions in various matters. Finally, I thank all the members for being with us and making this Meeting a grand success. Last but not the least I am thankful to staff at the Headquarters of IPS especially to Shri. R.L.P. Singh, Mr. R.K. Singh (Raju) Computer specialist and others for their ungrudging help in all the matters related to the Society.

President - Prof. C. Manoharachary, President-Elect - Dr. D.V. Singh, Secretary- Dr. D.K. Agarwal, Joint Secretary -Dr. V.C. Sinha, Treasurer-Dr. K.D.

(D.K. Agarwal)  
Secretary