

INDIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Proceedings of 69th Annual General Body Meeting and National Symposium on “**Diagnosis and management of plant diseases: Integrated approaches and recent trends**” held at ICAR Research Complex, Umiam, Meghalaya during January 9-11, 2017

I heartily welcome Dr. P. Chowdappa, President of the Society. It is indeed my proud privilege to welcome all the members of the Society, who have shown their keen interest in the affairs of the Society to come over to attend 69th Annual meeting at ICAR Research Complex, Umiam, Meghalaya.

I am happy to inform the house that the Indian Phytopathological Society in collaboration with all the ICAR institutes based in Delhi and adjoining area, organized 6th International Conference on “**Plant, Pathogens and People**” with the theme “**Challenges in Plant Pathology to benefit Humankind**”, February 23-27, 2016 at NASC Complex, New Delhi, India. Total 750 delegates including 68 foreign delegates belonging to 36 countries participated in the conference. The conference was inaugurated by Padma Bhushan Prof V.L. Chopra, former Member of Planning Commission and Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR and the proceedings of the same is available on IPS website.

I also wish to inform you that the International workshop on *Trichoderma* and *Gliocladium* was organized by “Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola”, “Association of Plant Pathologist”, Central India and “Indian Phytopathological Society, New Delhi” on November 27-30, 2016 at College of Agriculture, Nagpur. The Proceedings of the same is available on IPS website.

The Journal *Indian Phytopathology*

The journal Indian Phytopathology is up-to-date. December issue 2016 has been published and is available on website as well as print copy. The March issue 2017 is in process of publication.

NAAS Rating: I am delighted to inform you that the latest NAAS Rating for the journal Indian Phytopathology has been revised as 5.9 from 4.59. I would like to thank our Editorial Board, Reviewers, Executive Council and all other members for their invaluable contributions to journal’s success. The Society is already in pursuance for International Impact factor from Thomson Reuters in 2017.

Springer Collaboration: Executive Council and General Body agreed on proposal for collaboration with the Springer to publish the journal *Indian Phytopathology*. Dr. B.N. Chakraborty, President-Elect suggested to take strong steps and it should be finalized by March 2017. He suggested that the communication with Springer must be sent to all EC members so that they can also give their comments/suggestion in the matter”.

A mail with deadline will be sent to all the members to take their views to collaborate with Springer for publication of the journal Indian Phytopathology. If comments, not received by deadline period, it will be assumed that the members have no objection to collaborate with Springer as Co-publisher. The tentative deadline would be 15th February, 2017.

AWARDS

Registration and Processing Fee for IPS Awards

The EC agreed on the suggestion to withdraw the rule of “**Registration and Processing Fee**” for IPS Awards from this year. No “Registration and Processing Fee” will be charged from the award applicants. The General Body also approved the same.

Guidelines for “S. Sinha Memorial Award”

The detailed guidelines for the award sent to Dr. Prakash Bahadur, donor of the endowment fund, have been accepted by him. Further General Body agreed for this award to be biennial in nature, for young scientist between the age limit of 35 to 45, applicable to scientists holding permanent position and IPS Life Membership.

New Honorary Fellow and Advisory Board members of the Society

Out of the nominations received for Honorary Fellow and Advisory Board of the Society, the following names were approved by General Body.

Honorary Fellow: Dr. S.S. Chahal, Vice Chancellor, Khalsa University, Amritsar and Dr. Dilip Lakshman, Research Plant Pathologist, USDA ARS, USA

Advisory Board: Dr. K.S. Subbarao, USA and Dr. William Fry, Professor Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology Section, School of Integrative Plant Science, College of Agriculture and Life Science, Cornell University, USA

Presentation of the award (2016)

This year following lecture awards were delivered during this national symposium:

Presidential Lecture: Dr. P. Chowdappa on “*Revisiting the taxonomy of Colletotrichum using multi gene phylogenies*”

S.P. Raychaudhuri Memorial Lecture: Dr. Mangala Rai, Former DG (ICAR) on “*Plant Disease Management-Integration of Efforts and Alignment of Supports*”.

Mundkur Memorial Award: Dr. S.V. Ngachan, Director, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya on “*Diversity of plant pathogens and hyperparasites in northeast India*”.

S.N. Dasgupta Memorial Award : Dr. Subhash C. Bhardwaj, Principal Scientist & In Charge, ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research, Regional Station, Flowerdale, Shimla on “*Growing with wheat and barley rusts for three decades*”.

M.K. Patel Memorial Young Scientist Award:

(i) Dr. Prashant P. Jambhulkar, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Research Station, Banswara (MPUAT, Udaipur) on “*Integrated crop disease management in southern Rajasthan: ecofriendly practices in tune with biocontrol*”.

(ii) Dr. Deeba Kamil, Scientist (Senior Scale), ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi delivered her lecture during Delhi Zone Symposium on December 17, 2016 on “*DNA Barcoding: A Modern Tool to Explore Fungal Diversity*”.

J.F. Dastur Memorial Lecture Award : Dr. Rakesh Pandey, Head, Department of Microbial Technology and Nematology, CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow on “*Diseases of medicinal and aromatic plants: Insights in nematode bio-management*”.

J.P. Verma Memorial Award:

(i) Dr. Kalyan K. Mondal, Principal Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi on “*Dialogue between Xop-T3SS effectors of Xanthomonas oryzae pv. oryzae and rice during bacterial blight pathogenesis*”.

ii) Dr. Dinesh Singh, - Principal Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi on “*Current Status of Bacterial Wilt Disease of Solanaceous Crops*”.

Sharda Lele Memorial Award:

Dr. A.K. Misra, Ex Head, Division of Crop Protection, ICAR-Central Institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow on “*Diagnosis and integrated management of priority diseases of subtropical fruits*”.

Dr. Indu S. Sawant, Principal Scientist, ICAR-National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune on “*Tapping the marvelous power of microorganisms for sustainable plant protection*”.

The following awardees were felicitated during this national symposium:

K.C. Mehta and Manoranjan Mitra Award (for Review Article): Dr. Jagdish Kumar Director (Acting) cum Joint Director, ICAR-National Institute of Biotic Stress Management, Baronda, Raipur.

A.P. Misra Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. B.B. Nagaich, Former Director, ICAR-Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla.

IPS Recognition Award 2016

- (i) Dr. V. Muniyappa, Professor & Head of Plant Pathology (Retd.), GKVK, Bangalore
- (ii) Dr. K.N. Bhagabati, Former Head (Plant Pathology, AAU, Jorhat), Guwahati, Assam
- (iii) Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty, Assistant Director General (PP&B), ICAR, New Delhi
- (iv) Dr. Bineeta Sen Former Head (Plant Pathology), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi could not attend the function

Besides these, following 15 Fellows of the Society (FPSI) were felicitated.

1. Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty, ADG (Plant Protection & Biosafety), ICAR, New Delhi
2. Dr. Bikash Mandal, Principal Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi
3. Dr. Krishna Kumar, Head, Crop Protection Division, ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

4. Dr. M.R. Ravikumar, Professor, Agriculture College, Hanumanmatti, Distt: Haveri, Andhra Pradesh.
5. Dr. Atul Kumar, Senior Scientist, Division of Seed Science & Technology, ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research, New Delhi
6. Dr. S.K. Prashanthi, Associate Professor (Plant Pathology), Institute for Agriculture Biotechnology, UAS, Dharwad, Karnataka.
7. Dr. Ashok Bhattacharyya, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology), Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam
8. Dr. P.V. Patil, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology), AICRP on Wheat, UAS Dharwad, Karnataka
9. Dr. R.P. Pant, Principal Scientist, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi
10. Dr. Shahid Ahamad, Programme Coordinator, KVK, Rajouri, Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir.
11. Dr. Archana Mehta, Senior Lecturer, Department of Botany, Dr. H.N. Gour, Central University, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh.
12. Dr. Mihir Kr. Mishra, Associate Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
13. Dr. H.K. Singh, Associate Professor, N.D. University of Agriculture & Technology, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh.
14. Dr. B.W. Waghmare, Professor & Head, Department of Botany, Maharashtra Mahavidyalaya, Nilanga, Latur, Maharashtra.
15. Dr. Ram Charan Mathuria, Chief Technical Officer, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural research Institute, New Delhi

Declaration of awards (2016) to be presented in 2017

On the basis of EC nomination and suggestion, GB approved the following names for below mentioned awards:

(i) AP Misra Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. C.D. Mayee, Former Chairman, ASRB, ICAR, New Delhi.

- (ii) IPS Recognition Award: Total four names has been recommended this award, namely,
- i. Dr. V.G. Malathi, Adjunct Professor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
 - ii. Dr. T.S. Thind, Emeritus Scientist (ICAR) & Ex. Head (Plant Pathology), Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Punjab
 - iii. Dr. P.C. Trivedi, Vice Chancellor, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University, Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh
 - iv. Dr. K.H. Anahosur, Head, Plant Pathology (Retd.), University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka

(iii) S.P. Raychaudhuri Memorial Award : Dr. S. Ayyappan, Former DG, ICAR, New Delhi

It was also approved that that the cut-off marks for all the awards will be 70% and 60% for FPSI. If two person get equal marks then award will be given to the senior person on age basis”.

“EC agreed and General Body approved the names recommended by the Award Screening Committee”

Name of the award	Name of the awardee
1. Mundhkur Memorial Lecture Award	Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty ADG (PP and B), ICAR, New Delhi
2. M.S. Pavgi Award Lecture	Dr. U.S. Singh, Senior Scientist II, South Asia Regional Project Coordinator-STRASA, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) - India Office, New Delhi
3. J.F. Dastur Memorial Award Lecture	Dr. Shamarao Jahagirdar, Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka
4. A.K. Sarbhoy Memorial Award Lecture	Dr. T. Prameela Devi, Principal Scientist Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi
5. Sharda Lele Memorial Lecture Award	Dr. K.P. Singh, Professor, Department of Plant Pathology, G.B. Pant University of Agricultural & Technology,, Pantnagar, Uttarakhand
6. M.K. Patel Memorial Young Scientist Award Lecture.	1. Dr. Bishnu Maya Bashyal, Scientist (Senior Scale), ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi 2. Dr. V. Prakasam, Scientist (Plant Pathology), ICAR-Indian Institute of Rice Research, Hyderabad, Telangana
7. K.C. Mehta and Manoranjan Mitra Award	Dr. D.P. Singh, Principal Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat & Barley Research, Karnal, Haryana

Following names has been finalized for FPSI (2016)

1. Dr. V.K. Razdan, Professor, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Science & Technology-Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir
2. Dr. Ramji Singh, Professor & Head, Department of Plant Pathology, S.V.B.P. University of Agricultural & Technology, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
3. Dr. M.B. Patil, Professor and Extension Leader, Agricultural Extension Education Center [UAS-R], Taluka Panchayat Campus, Koppal, Karnataka
4. Dr. M.S. Yadav, Principal Scientist (Plant Pathology), National Centre for Integrated Pest Management, New Delhi
5. Dr. Vasanth Kumar Thimakapura, Founder, Krishi Jnana Vijnana Vedike, Mysore, Karnataka
6. Dr. J.N. Srivastava, Associate Professor/Senior Scientist, Department of Plant Pathology, Bihar Agricultural University, Bhagalpur, Bihar
7. Dr. Gayatri Biswal, Associate Professor, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
8. Dr. Vinod Kumar, Senior Scientist (Plant Pathology), ICAR-National Research Centre on Litchi, Muzaffarpur, Bihar
9. Dr. S.S. Vaish, Senior Assistant Professor, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

10. Dr. Sampat Nehra, Scientist, Birla Institute of Scientific Research, Jaipur, Rajasthan
11. Dr. S.D. Somwanshi, Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture, Udgir, Maharashtra
12. Dr. Sunita J. Magar, Assistant Professor, College of Agriculture, Latur, Maharashtra
13. Dr. Prashant P. Jambhulkar, Assistant Professor (Plant Pathology), Agricultural Research Station, Banswara, Rajasthan

M.J. Narasimhan Best Research Paper published in the journal Indian Phytopathology (2012-2015)

The published research articles in Indian Phytopathology w.e.f. 2012 to 2015 were evaluated by the different screening committees which were further screened on the basis of citation of the publication. However, the General Body not agreed on the result. The members suggested that the paper should not selected on basis of citation index only, but also should be based on the importance of papers and its contents etc. Hence, the results will be re-reviewed by the evaluation committee.

Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Academic Merit Award

This year total 9 contestant participated in this contest from different zones. However, no names have been received from Central and Mid-eastern Zone.

The judging committee recommended two names for Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Academic Merit Award.

1. Ms. Parveen Khan, Department of Plant Pathology, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam for the paper entitled "*Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lactucae* a potential threat to hydroponically grown lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) and its management using microbial consortia"
1. Mr. Muttanna Revadi, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka for the paper entitled "Molecular characterization, generation of scFv monoclonal antibody and management of viral diseases of cucumber"

However, the following names were recommended for Commendation award:

1. Ms. Nitika Gupta, *Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi* - Genome characterization and Immuno based diagnosis using synthetic peptides of Leek yellow stripe virus (LYSV)
2. Mr. Maninderjeet Singh, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana - Induction and basis of resistance in wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) against Karnal bunt caused by *Tilletia indica* Mitra
3. Mr. Teli Basavaraj - S.D. Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar, Gujarat - Exploring biodiversity of nematophagous fungi in the semi-arid ecosystem of north Gujarat and their significance in managing root knot of tomato

4. Mr. Pranjal Kr. Kaman, Department of Plant Pathology, CSIR- North East Institute of Science and Technology, Jorhat, Assam - Biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles and its effects against soil borne pathogens
5. Mr. Pradeep Manyam, University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka - Bacteriophages, Characterization and Utilisation as Biocontrol agent *Xanthomonas axonopodispv. citri* (Hasse) Vauterin *et al.* and *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi *et al.*
6. Mr. Kanishendra Nath Sarker, Department of Plant Pathology, BCKV, Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal - Assessment of antifungal and nematicidal potentiality of fluorescent Pseudomonads from different agro-ecological region of West Bengal
7. Ms. M. Dolpriya Devi, Uttar Banga Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Pundibari, Coochbehar, West Bengal - Validation of phenotypic traits in wheat for selection of resistance genotypes from the germplasm

APS Travel Sponsorship Award

Out of 5 candidates, 2 names have been recommended for this travel grant sponsorship. The abstract and biodata of the selected candidates will be sent to APS for finalization.

1. Ms. Himadri Kaushik, Department of Plant Pathology, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam for the paper entitled “Chemical approach of synthesizing zinc oxide nanopowder and studies on its antifungal activity and plant growth promotion”
2. Ms. Parveen Khan, Department of Plant Pathology, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam for the paper entitled “*Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lactucae* a potential threat to hydroponically grown lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) and its management using microbial consortia”

K.P.V. Menon Best Poster Award

The judging committee recommended the following names for Prof. KPV Menon Best Poster Award:

Title of the poster	Name of the presenter	Position
Green synthesis of zinc nanoparticles using chitosan and culture filtrate of <i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> and their utility against major plant pathogens	V.B. Nargund , UAS, Dharwad (authored by J.U. Vinay, V.B. Nargund, C. Swamy, R.R. Patil, S. Jahagirdar and R.V. Hegde)	First
Organic practices : Cropping system approach	Joyshree Matanta , UBKV, Pundibari, West Bengal (authored by Joyshree Matanta, P.M. Bhattacharya and A. Roy)	Second
Development of PCR based and Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) assay for the detection of bakane disease pathogen <i>F. fujikuroi</i>	Kirti Rawat , IARI, New Delhi (authored by S.K. Sunani, Kirti Rawat, S. Sharma, B.M. Bashyal and R. Aggarwal)	Third

Commendation Award		
Phytoplasma associated with Witches'-broom and green stem syndrome in soybean in Vidharbha region, Maharashtra	Monicka Hajong , College of PG Studies, CAU, Ribhoi, Meghalaya (authored by Monicka Hajong, P.C. Taram, S.S. Mane)	First
Survey for the incidence of black rot of cabbage caused by <i>Xanthomonas campestris</i> pv. <i>campestris</i> in different districts of Northern Karnataka	K.B. Yadahalli , College of Agriculture, Hanumanamatti, Karnataka	Second
Molecular analysis of mild cross protecting strain of <i>Citrus tristeza virus</i> for management of disease	Utpal Kr. Bhattacharya , IARI, New Delhi (authored by S.P. Choudhury, Utpal Kr. Bhattacharya, N. Balram, P. Chakraborty and Kajal Kr. Biswas)	Third

APS Membership for IPS members

Total **74** IPS members has been enlisted as APS member which was highly appreciated by them. APS membership was routed through IPS, to keep the record of the members, who opted to become the APS members. APS also committed for their members also to seek the membership of IPS, which will be informed in APS Annual Meet 2017.

Bidding for conference ICPP2023

The Society bid for ICPP2023 with the help of **SUMMIT Alpcord Network**, New Delhi, however the Society could not win the bid.

Participation of Secretary, IPS to attend APS Meeting in August 2016

Dr. Pratibha Sharma, Secretary, IPS visited Tampa, Florida to attend the APS Annual Meeting w.e.f. July 30 to August 4, 2016 as recommended in the Mid-term EC meeting held on June 10, 2016. Attended APS-IPS Working Group meeting held on 31st July 2016 at 2.00-3.00PM and APS Foundation Board Meeting on August 2, 2016, at 1:30-5:30 p.m. at the Tampa Convention Centre, Florida.

The detailed discussion was held on the following points :

- **An APS-IPS Working Group (2016-2019) has been established under** Chairpersonship, Dr. Sally Miller, President, APS. Dr. Krishnamurthy Subbarao (APS) and Dr. Pratibha Sharma (IPS) will be the liaison scientists of the working group.
- **Joint APS-IPS Activities**
APS-IPS joint Session on “**Indo-US collaborative research & training priorities and opportunities in Plant Pathology**” has been finalized which will be conducted at San Antonio, Texas, U.S.A., August 05-09, 2017.
- **APS Travel Sponsorship for Students**
APS Travel Sponsorship for Students has been instituted. The purpose of this award is to encourage plant pathology students pursuing a doctoral degree in India, who are members of IPS, to attend the APS Annual Meeting or other APS sanctioned meeting if deemed appropriate by the Indian Phytopathology Society and APS Foundation Board. The award has been established with contributions from Plant Pathologists of Indian Origin. Students will compete at the zonal competitions in India,

and the awardee will be chosen from the top student presenters at these zonal competitions. The fund will reimburse the awardee for return airfare from India to the meeting venue, accommodation, and incidentals. The awardee is expected to bear the cost of meeting registration.

APS-IPS Session for ICPP2018: Proposal for joint APS-IPS session on “Invasive and Emerging Diseases” in ICPP208 has been sent.

A total expenditures (Registration fee, Travel and Accommodation charges) of Rs. 213,064 Lakh (Rs. Two Lakh Thirteen thousand and sixty four only) was incurred during the APS Annual Meeting and was placed before EC & GB for reimbursement and it was approved. President, Dr. P. Chowdappa informed the house that it was one time grant only given to Secretary of the Society as it was needed for initiation of the collaboration with APS. EC also suggested that if new collaboration start with other International Society, in that case it can also be given, if required.

Zonal Chapters Activities

This year 7 zones have organize the zonal chapter symposium, however, Central Zone could not conduct the symposium.

Zone	Date	Topic	Contact person/Venue
North Eastern	Nov 4-5, 2016	Facilitating a shift from chemo-centric to organic mode of plant health management in North East India	Dr. K.C. Puzari Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam Mobile:9954410071 Email:kcpuzari@gmail.com
Northern	Dec. 17, 2016	Management of Plant Diseases under Changing Climate Scenario	Dr. M.S. Saharan ICAR-IIWBR, Karnal, Haryana Mobile:9416988856 Email:mssaharan7@yahoo.co.in
Western	Dec. 11-12, 2016	Plant Health Management for Sustainable Agriculture	Dr. K.T. Apet College of Agriculture, Udgir, MS Mobile:9923357430 Email:ktapet123@rediffmail.com
Central	Dec 8-9, 2016	Pathogen dynamics and diseases management for sustainable agriculture	Dr. M. Srinivas Prasad ICAR-IIRR, Hyderabad Mobile:984929 1553 Email:data.msprasad@gmail.com
Eastern	Dec 8-9, 2016	Plant Health Management for Food security and Safety	Dr. Jayant Saha BCKV, Nadia, West Bengal Mobile:9433164218 Email:sahajayanta100@gmail.com
Southern	Dec 15-16, 2016	Recent Advances in Plant Health Management for Sustainable Productivity	Dr. S.T. Naik UAS, Dharwad, Karnataka Mobile:9482751956 Email:naiksundhindra@gmail.com

Delhi	Dec17, 2016	Phytopathogenic Mollicutes: A current Indian scenario of diagnosis, epidemiology and disease management	Dr. G.P. Rao Division of Plant Pathology ICAR-IARI, New Delhi Mob.: 9711763384 Email: gprao_gor@rediffmail.com
Mid-Eastern	Dec 29-30, 2016	Crop Health Management through eco-friendly approaches	Dr. Krishna Kumar ICAR-IIPR, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh Mobile:9818740144 Email:kkpath@gmail.com

Composition of Executive Council 2017:

As per the election result declared the new elected Executive Council are as follows:

President (2017)	Prof. B.N. Chakraborty , Immuno-Phytopathology Laboratory, Department of Botany, University of North Bengal, Siliguri, West Bengal	
President-Elect (2017)	Dr. R.N. Pandey , Professor & Head, Department of Plant Pathology, B.A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat	Unopposed elected
Secretary (2017-19)	Dr. Dinesh Singh , Principal Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	Elected
Joint Secretary (2017-19)	Dr. Robin Gogoi , Principal Scientist, Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	Elected
Treasurer (2017-19)	Dr. Vaibhav Kr. Singh , Scientist (Senior Scale), Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	Elected
Zonal Chapters (2017)		
Delhi Zonal President	Dr. Atul Kumar , Division of Seed Science Technology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi	Unopposed elected
Zonal Councillor	Dr. Bishnu M. Bashyal , Division of Plant Pathology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi	Unopposed elected
Mid-Eastern Zonal President	Dr. K.P. Singh , Department of Plant Pathology, GBPUAT, Pantnagar	Unopposed elected
Zonal Councillor	Dr. A.K.Tewari , Department of Plant Pathology, GBPUAT, Pantnagar	Unopposed elected

Eastern Zonal President	Dr. Srikanta Das , Plant Pathology BCKVV, Mohanpur	Unopposed elected
Zonal Councillor	Dr. Subrata Dutta , Plant Pathology BCKVV, Mohanpur	Unopposed elected
Northern Zonal President	Dr. Shahid Ahmad , Directorate of Research, SKUAST, Jammu	Nominated
Zonal Councillor	Dr. S.K. Singh , Directorate of Research, SKUAST, Jammu	Nominated
North-Eastern Zonal President	Dr. Narendra Prakash , ICAR Research Complex, Imphal, Manipur	Nominated
Zonal Councillor	Dr. Susheel Kr. Sharma , ICAR Research Complex, Imphal, Manipur	Nominated
Central Zonal President	Dr. Om Gupta , JNKVV, Jabalpur	Nominated
Zonal Councillor	Dr. Pramod Kr. Gupta , JNKVV, Jabalpur	Nominated
Western Zonal President	Dr. S.S. Mane , Head and Plant Pathology Dr. P.D.K.V., Akola	Nominated
Zonal Councillor	Dr. M.V. Totawar , Dr. P.D.K.V., Akola	Nominated
Southern Zonal President	Dr. V. Devappa , UHS, Bangalore	Nominated
Zonal Councillor	Dr. B. Anjaneya Reddy , UHS, Bangalore	Nominated

Treasurer's report

The report was presented by the Dr. Dinesh Singh, Treasurer, IPS. A marked improvement in collection of fund has been achieved during this period and Society is in sound financial position.

Chief Editor's Report

The report was presented by the Secretary on behalf of Chief Editor, IPS. During 2016-17, total 202 papers were received through on-line submissions. Out of these, 56 were rejected, 78 published, 38 are in review, 12 have been accepted for next issue and 18 have been sent back to authors for revision. This shows approximately 27% articles rejection rate.

Report and Recommendations of National Symposium on "Diagnosis and management of plant diseases: Integrated approaches and recent trends"

National Symposium and 69th Annual meeting were jointly organized by ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam, Meghalaya and Indian Phytopathological Society.

Chief guest Dr. Mangala Rai (Former DG, ICAR) during the Inaugural session stressed on integration of efforts by all disciplines to make disease management effective and

profitable. He also appreciated the efforts by organizing committee for including very pertinent technical sessions like Nanotechnology and plant pathology, Plant microbe interaction, Functional genomics for biotic stress management. Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty (ADG, PP & Biosafety) emphasised on molecular detection of pathogens and also on the need of tracking transboundary movement of the pathogens. Book of abstract and souvenir of the national symposium and three books from IPS (1. A journey of seven decades 2. Special Issue of Indian Phytopathology and 3. Members Directory) were also released during the inaugural ceremony. Dr. P. Chowdappa, Director, ICAR-CPCRI & President, IPS addressed the gathering and emphasized on intensive research inputs required for tackling climate change scenario. Dr. S.V. Ngachan, Director, ICAR Research Complex for NEH region & Chairman Organizing Committee stressed on soil health aspects in respect to influence of soil microbes on plant health and urged the gathering for developing a holistic approach of tackling plant diseases. Dr. Pratibha Sharma, Secretary, IPS informed the gathering about the activities of the society and also about the recent collaboration with American Phytopathological Society. Welcome address was delivered by Organizing Secretary, Dr. Pankaj Baiswar and vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. S. Chandra, HOD, Plant protection, ICAR Research Complex for NEH region.

Many delegates from all most all parts of the country participated in the symposium. In Nine technical sessions several lead lectures on various aspects were presented followed by several Poster and oral presentations. Following lead lectures were presented during the symposium.

- (i) Disease Management Using Nanotechnology by Dr. Pranab Dutta
- (ii) Classical biological control of alien invasive weeds of North East India by Dr. K. C. Puzari
- (iii) Mandarin decline in Northeast India caused by Citrus tristeza virus: Management by conventional and biotechnological approaches by Dr. K. K. Biswas
- (iv) Integrated disease management strategies in relation to epidemiology of the apple scab in Uttarakhand by Dr. K. P. Singh
- (v) Diversity, diagnosis and management of black rot disease of crucifer crops by Dr. Dinesh Singh
- (vi) Detection, diagnosis and management of important plant diseases of Chhattisgarh by Dr. M.P. Thakur
- (vii) Bacterial wilt disease of brinjal (*Ralstonia solanacearum*) in tropical Islands-status and management strategies by Dr. S. Dam Roy
- (viii) Blast resistance genes and their performance in the multi environment test by Dr. M. Srinivas Prasad

- (ix) Nanoparticles vis-à-vis plant pathogens, beneficial microbes and crop environment by Dr. Susanta Banik

Recommendations:

- (i) Strengthening of Quarantine measures
- (ii) Development of rapid and easily accessible diagnostic kits for major pathogens
- (iii) Research programs related to disease management should be strictly formulated focussing on ultimate beneficiary
- (iv) Exploration of new sources of resistance for major diseases
- (v) Time series studies on pathogen population dynamics in relation to climate change should be conducted
- (vi) Effect of nano particles on beneficial microbes should be investigated
- (vii) Research on PR proteins for biotic stresses should be intensified

The following decision were taken and approved by the General body.

Online voting system:

Online voting system for the different office bearer post of the Society was approved by the General Body. It will be applicable from 2017 onwards election.

Proposal for S. Nagarajan Memorial Award:

A committee of the following members namely, Drs. R.K. Jain, B.N. Chakraborty, V. Prakasam, Pratibha Sharma, Dinesh Singh and K.D. Srivastava constituted to discuss and develop the guidelines for institution of new award. It was also suggested to invite IPS members for their contribution of Endowment Fund for the award.

Venue for the forthcoming 70th Annual Meeting: The proposal of Dr. Ashok Bhattacharyya, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam was unanimously approved as a venue for the next 70th Annual Meeting and national Symposium of the Society.

Revision of membership/subscription rate

The Membership and subscription rate of the Society was revised and approved by the General Body, which will be applicable from 2017.

	Indian Members		Foreign members	
	Old rate	Revised rate	Old rate	Revised rate
Annual student Membership* (online)	Rs. 750.00	Rs. 1,000.00	US \$ 40.00	US \$ 55.00
Annual Membership (online)	Rs. 1000.00	Rs. 1,500.00	US \$ 40.00	US \$ 60.00
Life Membership (online)	Rs. 10,000.00	Rs. 12,000.00	US \$ 400.00	US \$ 480.00
Instt. Subscribers/ Agencies (print version)	Rs. 5,000.00	Rs. 10,000.00	US \$ 200.00	US \$ 400.00

Corporate Members*	Rs. 25,000.00	Rs. 25,000.00		
Patrons	Rs. 1,00,000.00	Rs. 1,00,000.00		
Admission fee (for new members)	Rs. 100.00	Rs. 100.00	US \$ 10.00	US \$ 10.00
Processing charges of papers	Rs. 400.00	Rs. 500.00		

It was also decided to withdraw the restriction of Life membership for 20 years as online access will be given to the members. However, members, who wish to take the print version of the journal as usual, an amount of Rs. 200.00 (Rs. Two hundred only)/[(US \$ 35.00 (US\$ Thirty Five only) in case of foreign members)] will be charged annually towards postal charge.

It was also decided that GROUP MEMBERSHIP (five and more than five) can be taken by a particular group of members and they can avail a discount of 10% on total membership fee. However, it has to be paid in a single installment.

The Secretary thanked and expressed sincere gratitude to Dr. P. Chowdappa, President for their guidance, advice, encouragement and support in day to day functioning of the Society. The Secretary also thanked profusely Dr. B.N. Chakraborty, the new President (2017) and Dr. R.N. Pandey, President Elect (2017), Dr. Pankaj Baiswar, Organizing Secretary of the Annual Meeting; Chairman and rapporteurs of various technical sessions and members of organizing sub committees for their wholehearted support in making the 69th National Symposium a grand success. Secretary thanked also to all the staff members and students for rendering their valuable help in various ways for making the symposium success. She thanked all the members of Executive Council for their cooperation, active support and suggestions in various activities of the Society. Last but not least, she thanked to the staff of the Headquarter of IPS for their valuable support. The financial support extended by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India and Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi towards publication of *Indian Phytopathology* is gratefully acknowledged.

Condolence Meeting for eight Life Members of our Society was held who passed away to their heavenly abode during 2016 namely Drs. R.P. Singh, Y.R. Sarma, Janki Kandhari, Ram Kishun, B.K. Prasad, Ram Dayal, S. Nagarajan and R. Rabindran. The members of the Society express their sincere condolences and profound grief to the bereaved families and pray to almighty that their souls may rest in peace.



(Pratibha Sharma)

Dated: January 30, 2017



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