

## **Report of the Secretary presented at the 42nd Annual General Body Meeting, Tirupati, January 5, 1990**

During the annual meeting of the Society a National Symposium on "Molecular Biology of Plant Diseases" was organised under the joint auspices of I.C.A.R. and I.P.S. The Society also organised poster paper sessions in addition to two lectures on various topics of Plant Pathology. All these meetings were attended by a large number of distinguished plant pathologists of the country.

During the year 1989, 149 new members joined the Society, while 28 members did not renew their membership. The total membership is 1590 now. Dr. P. C. Joshi suddenly expired on 2.12.1989 and Dr. B. N. Uppal expired on 22.11.89. The Society lost two very valuable members in their death.

This year the Society admitted 11 members as Fellows: Dr. S. N. Dwivedi, Dr. S. Gangopadhyay, Dr. R. K. Goel, Dr. R. C. Gupta, Dr. N. S. K. Harsh, Dr. R. D. Khulbe, Dr. B. M. Kulshrestha, Dr. Naresh Mehta, Dr. Naresh Narayan, Dr. P. Rama Rao and Dr. S. P. Singh. Heartiest congratulations to the new Fellows of the Society.

We are thankful to the I.C.A.R. for financial assistance of Rs. 25,000/- for the publication of Indian Phytopathology and Rs. 7,000/- grant in connection with the National Symposium on "Molecular Biology of Plant Diseases. Thanks are also due to the Dept. of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, for a grant of Rs. 15,000/- in connection with the National Symposium on "Epidemiology and Forecasting of Plant Diseases" held at New Delhi on 28.2.1989. On 30th November, 1989 the Society had a total of Rs. 3,08,171.52 in Saving Bank account and cash in hand and Rs. 2,14,500/- in the long term deposit in banks and N.S.C. The continued rise in the cost of printing is making it very difficult for us to maintain the high standards of Indian Phytopathology with limited resources at our disposal. We are trying for more advertisements, but unfortunately the response has not been very encouraging so far. We are also making efforts to get more financial assistance from INSA, DST, CSIR, ICAR, etc. In case our efforts do not succeed, there may not be any alternative except to raise the membership fee and also to ask for donations from members who can afford to pay. The Society have been subsidizing the members by charging membership fee much less than the production cost of the journal.

During 1989, last two numbers of Vol. 41, 1988 and two issues of Vol. 42, No. 1-2, 1989 of Indian Phytopathology were printed and No. 3 and 4 are with the press.

During the year various Chapters of the Society organized special lectures by distinguished speakers. These were delivered by Dr. Alen Brunt (U.K.), Dr. R. H. Converse (U.S.A.), Dr. A. J. Gibbs (Australia), Dr. Y. L. Nene (Andhra Pradesh), Dr. A. S. Rao (Andhra Pradesh), Dr. J. K. Sharma (Kerala), Dr. R. N. Symons (Australia), Dr. J. M. Thresh (U.K.). In Addition, the annual meetings of the Zonal Chapters were held at various places from October to December, 1989. They were great success as evident from the number of papers presented in each Zonal Chapter.

### **Northern Chapter**

The Annual Meeting and Symposium on "Chemotherapeutic control of plant diseases" was organised on Dec. 4-5, 1989 at Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar. Seventy five delegates participated. In all 50 papers were accepted of which 42 were presented in six different sessions. 'Commendation certificates' were awarded to scientists below 35 years for best presentations. There was a general consensus amongst the participants that diagnosis of plant diseases require special emphasis in teaching since it is a pre-requisite for recommending control measures; nine months internship at Master's Degree is desirable to give professional orientation; plant disease clinic should be initiated at district or regional level, and institution of 'Commendation Certificate' at national level will encourage participation of young scientists.

### **Mid-Eastern Chapter**

The meeting and Seminar on "Management of important disease problems of major crops" was held at CSUAT, Kanpur on December 15-16, 1989. Out of 55 abstracts received for the meeting, 45 were presented.

### **Central Chapter**

The meeting was held on 9.12.1989 at Hyderabad and symposium on "Current trends in Mycology and plant Pathology" was also organized during the meeting. Thirty three papers were presented.

### **Western Chapter**

In the meeting held on Nov. 5-6, 1989 at P.K.V., Akola, 65 papers were presented.

### **Southern Chapter**

The meeting was held on December 7-9, 1989 at I.I.H.R. Bangalore in which a symposium on 'Plant disease problems and their management in South India' was also organised. Fifty four papers were presented.

Due to unavoidable circumstances meetings of Delhi and Eastern Chapters were not held.

Sixth Jeersannidhi lecture on "Plant virus replications" was delivered by Dr. H. O. Agarwal on 1.5.1989 at I.A.R.I., New Delhi since he could not participate in the annual meeting held earlier.

The Society is thankful to Dr. Kishan Singh for kindly agreeing to deliver the 27th Mundkur Memorial Lecture entitled "Red rot of sugarcane in India and its management", to Dr. D. V. R. Reddy to deliver the 1st Prof. M. S. Pavgi lecture entitled "Virology in developing countries", and to Dr. G. P. Agarwal to deliver 7th Jeersannidhi ;Lecture entitled "Entomogenous fungi in India and management of insect pests".

The M. J. Narasimhan Academic Award for 1990 was awarded to Mr. M. Krishna Reddy, for his paper entitled "Virus disease problems and their epidemiology in blackgram". Heartiest congratulations to him. Prof. M. J. Narasimhan Medal Award for

the best paper in Vol. 41 (1988) of Indian Phytopathology has gone to Dr. V. P. Rao and Dr. R. P. Thankur of ICRISAT, Patancheru for their paper entitled "*Fusarium semitectum* var. *majus*—A potential biocontrol agent of Ergot (*Claviceps fusiformis*) of pearl millet". Heartiest congratulations to them.

On behalf of the Society, the Secretary participated in an Asia Regional Seminar on "Reconstructing National Research Systems to meet the Agricultural Development Challenges" jointly sponsored by Commonwealth Assoc. of Scientific Agricultural Sciences (CASAS) and National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), held at Hyderabad from 22-25, 1989. Delegates from Bangladesh, Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore took part in the meetings. Many important topics were discussed and several recommendations were made for improvement in agriculture.

The Executive Council and Editorial Board met jointly on 2.1.1990 and recommended the following for the approval of General Body.

- Qualifications for F.P.S.I. should be changed to five years continuous membership, with 10 (Ten) publications. The fee should be Rs. 100/.
- Speaker for Mundkur Memorial Lecture for the year 1991; 1. Dr. B. S. Mehrotra, 2. Dr. Anupam Varma, 3. Dr. R. K. Hegde, 4. Dr. M. M. Payak, 5. Dr. R. L. Munjal.
- Judges for Prof. M. J. Narasimhan Academic Award contest for 1990: 1. Dr. R. S. Mehrotra, 2. Dr. C. D. Mayee, 3. Dr. G. P. Agarwal, 4. Dr. Kishan Singh, 5. Dr. M. V. Nayudu.
- Attempts should be made to hold the next Annual General Body meeting either at Jabalpur or Udaipur or Coimbatore.
- Committee for vote counting of election for 1990: 1. Dr. S. J. Singh, 2. Dr. R. H. Singh, 3. Dr. P. Raghuvver Rao, 4. Dr. R. R. Singh.
- Not to accept the Award for the best research paper published in Indian Phytopathology, offered by M/s Hexamer Agriculture Research and Development Foundation, Bombay as the Foundation is not willing to deposit lumpsum amount with the Society for starting the award.
- Both Zonal Chapter President and Councillor should be paid T.A. and D.A., i.e. 1 class rail fare both ways and D.A. as usual for attending the Annual General Body meeting.
- One mid-term meeting of the Society's Executive Council should be held in August or September for which no T.A. and D.A. will be paid to the members by I.P.S.
- In case a person resigns after election, fresh elections will be held for that office.
- Business Manager be given a scale of Rs. 1000-100-2000/- p.m.
- Expenditure on postage etc. should only be reimbursed to those Zonal Chapters, where meetings could not be held due to unavoidable circumstances before 31st December, 1989. No Zonal Chapter meeting will be held after the Annual Meeting of the Society.

—Executive Committee should form a panel from which the Secretary will pick up 5 members for evaluation of the best paper for Prof. M. J. Narasimhan Medal Award. The panel for 1990 will be—Prof. K. S. Bhargava, Dr. R. K. Grover, Dr. B. B. Nagaich, Dr. R. P. Purkayastha, Dr. M. S. Pavgi, Dr. R. S. Singh, Dr. P. Vidhyasekharan, Dr. C. D. Mayee, Dr. V. V. Chenulu, Dr. M. V. Nayudu, Dr. K. G. Mukerji, Dr. M. M. Payak, Dr. B. S. Mehrotra, Dr. Gopal Swarup, Dr. A. M. Khan, Dr. D. N. Srivastava, Dr. P. Rama Rao, Dr. Anupam Varma, Dr. K. C. Basuchaudhary, Dr. Ram Dayal, Dr. K. S. Bilgrami, Dr. C. Manoharachari, Dr. V. R. Mali, Dr. P. Raghuveer Rao, Dr. C. L. Sethi.

These recommendations were approved by the General Body in its meeting on 5.1.1990.

The following are the newly elected members of the Executive Council for the year 1990. Heartiest congratulations to them.

President	—Dr. R. S. Mehrotra
President-elect	—Dr. H. S. Sohi
Secretary	—Dr. Dinesh Kumar (1989-91)
Joint Secretary	—Dr. Y. S. Ahlawat (1989-91)
Treasurer	—Dr. B. K. Giri (1989-91)

<i>Chapters</i>	<i>Zonal Presidents</i>	<i>Councillors</i>
Central	Dr. M. B. V. Rao	Dr. R. D. V. J. Prasada Rao
Delhi	Dr. S. K. Sharma	Dr. (Mrs.) P. K. Pillai
Eastern	Dr. R. N. Verma	Dr. R. R. Mishra
Mid-Eastern	Dr. Kamal	Dr. (Mrs) K. Shukla
Northern	Dr. S. M. Paul Khurana	Dr. S. K. Nayar
Southern	Dr. K. Sivaprakasam	Dr. R. Samiyappan
Western	Dr. P. L. Patil	Dr. A. P. Gaikwad

In the end, I would like to express my gratitude to all the members of the E. C. and staff at the Headquarters for their guidance and generous help in the functioning of the Society.

Dinesh Kumar  
Secretary