

Proceedings of the meeting of Executive Council of Indian Society of Agronomy held on May 17, 2017 at 11.00 AM in the Committee Hall, 1st Floor, Room No. 115, KAB-II, ICAR, Pusa, New Delhi 110 012

The followings were present:

1. Dr A.K. Vyas, President and ADG (HRM), ICAR, New Delhi - In Chair
2. Dr V.K. Singh, Vice President and Head (Agronomy), IARI, New Delhi
3. Dr Y.S. Shivay, Secretary and Professor/Principal Scientist, (Agronomy), IARI, New Delhi
4. Dr Prashant S. Bodake, Joint Secretary and Chief Scientist, AICRP on Irrigation and Water Management, MPKV, Rahuri, Ahemadnagar, M.S.
5. Dr Ashok Kumar, Treasurer and Principal Scientist, KAB I, Pusa Campus, New Delhi
6. Dr M S Yadav, Councillor - Jharkhand and Chairman, Deptt. of Agronomy, BAU, Kanke, Ranchi, Jharkhand
7. Dr Dilip Singh, Councillor - Rajasthan and Professor (Agronomy), Maharana Pratap University & Agriculture & Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan
8. Dr B C Sharma, Councillor - J&K and Professor (Agronomy), Faculty of Agriculture, SKUAST, Jammu, Chatha, J&K
9. Dr M D Vyas, Councillor - Madhya Pradesh and Principal Scientist, RAK College of Agriculture, Sehore, M.P.
10. Dr. A. Velayutham, Councillor - Tamil Nadu and Professor of Agronomy & Head, Deptt. of Farm Management, Agriculture College and Research Institute, TNAU, Killikulam, T.N.
11. Dr Janardan Singh, Councillor-Himachal Pradesh Professor, Department of Agronomy, Forages and Grassland Management, College of Agriculture, CSK HPAU, Palampur, H.P.
12. Dr Satish Kumar Tomar; Councillor-Uttar Pradesh and Programme Coordinator, KVK Sohna, Siddharthnagar, U.P.
13. Dr. Rohitashav Singh, Councillor – Uttarakhand and Professor (Agronomy), GBPUA&T, Pantnagar, US Nagar, Uttarakhand
14. Dr Shankar Lal Jat, Councillor - Delhi and Scientist, ICAR-IIMR, Pusa Campus, New Delhi

At the outset, Dr Y S Shivay, Secretary, ISA extended warm welcome to all the EC members and requested the Dr A K Vyas, President, ISA to conduct the proceedings of the meeting.

Dr A K Vyas also extended hearty welcome to the Executive Council Members and expressed sincere thanks to attend this important meeting after traveling long distances. He sensitised all the members about the need to develop ISA in professional manner with greater transparency; involvement of all members; reliance on systems, procedures, norms, rules; quality assurance; promotion of agronomy discipline and welfare of all agronomists. He emphasised to work in the larger interest and try to contribute and serve the Society rather taking advantage from the Society. He said that we are here to promote the interest of the Discipline and the Society. We shall try to make this Society one of the best Agriculture Societies, not in the Country but globally, therefore, we shall focus on Excellence and Innovation. He reminded that as Hon'ble PM of India is envisioning for New India, similarly we shall collectively envision New ISA.

The item-wise agenda of the meeting was taken up and appropriate decisions were taken after thorough discussion.

1. **Confirmation of proceedings of last EC meeting held on 20.04.2017:** The proceeding of last EC meeting held on 20.04.2017 were confirmed with observations of the Treasurer that some liabilities are pending for payment. It was informed to the EC that Rs. 1.00 Lakh is to be paid back to the Event Management Company of 4th IAC as it is Caution money with the Society and some expenditure incurred on composing of 3rd Volume of the Extended Summaries. It was resolved to release the same after taking proper undertaking from the Event Management Company. Besides, Secretary, ISA informed that more money is expected to be received by the Society to the tune of Rs 2.50 Lakh from ICAR as Grant and Rs. 3.00 Lakh as booking amount of NASC

Auditorium for 4th IAC. It was decided that henceforth all transactions of the Society shall be dealt by Dr Ashok Kumar, the new Treasurer.

- 2. Activation and autonomy to local chapters of ISA:** Secretary, ISA informed that there are only 05 local Chapters viz. Kashmir, Jammu, Navsari, Hyderabad and Udaipur operating but Kashmir and Navsari Chapter are inactive and annual report of activities are not received from anyone of these Chapters. All the members expressed concern and some views for their activation and autonomy including funds. It was decided that instead of capturing scattered ideas/views/suggestions, a Committee shall be formulated to deliberate on all aspects and also invite views of other Councillors and ISA members to prepare a structured and comprehensive report/recommendations in the time frame. The Committee shall suggest ways and means to activate local Chapters along with various activities to be undertaken by them and to give autonomy to Local Chapters. The Committee shall be comprised of:

Chairman: Dr. M.S. Yadava, Ranchi

Convener : Dr V Nepalia, Udaipur

Members : Dr B C Sharma, Jammu; Dr S K Tomar, Sohna; Dr A M Patel, Anand
Dr. Rajendra Lakpale, Raipur; Dr. A. Velayutham, Tirunelveli
Dr L M Garnayak, Bhubneswer

The Convener may invite the views/suggestions of the Committee members, other Councillors and ISA members online. The Committee shall finalize the recommendations online and submit to the President, ISA **latest by 15th June, 2017.**

- 3. Organizing group meetings/ brainstorming sessions/workshop by different ISA Chapters:** It was decided to organizing group meetings/brainstorming sessions/workshops by different ISA Chapters in smaller groups of 50-60 relevant experts at least one in a year by each Chapter. Each Chapter may Organise a programme on **“Doubling Farmers’ Income in the State by 2022”** OR on most important current agriculture problem of the State and develop the Road map/Work Plan to overcome the same. The Proceedings/Road map/Work Plan shall be widely circulated to the ISA HQs; State Functionaries/Authorities like- VCs, APC, Ag. Secretary, Director, SDA, State Ag. Minister, CM; DG, ICAR; Secretary, DAC; MOA; NITI Aayog; PMO; Ag. related Ministries; etc. Each Chapter shall plan such programmes and inform the ISA HQs by **31st July, 2017** for prior approval of the Committee given below. The modalities may be worked out by the Committee and a lump sum amount may be provided by the ISA HQs to the local Chapter and rest has to be arranged by the organizing Chapter. Chapters may plan one day deliberations of 50 - 60 active researchers/teachers/policy makers related to the topic followed by developing road map/work plan by 10 - 12 relevant experts next day forenoon.

Chairman: President, ISA

Convener : Secretary, ISA

Members : Vice President, ISA; Treasurer, ISA ; One Expert – Dr S K Pareek

- 4. Utilising valuable knowledge and experience of retired Agronomists:** It was decided to effectively utilize the valuable knowledge and experience of retired Agronomists in Organising Symposium/Brain Storming/Work Shops/Group Meetings; Publications of IJA, Newsletter, Books, etc.; Improving functioning, activities and visibility of ISA; Developing Agronomy success stories; Revision of list of Life members; Developing transparent Award System; Improving NAAS rating; Fund raising for the Society; Getting more positions for Agronomy Discipline for better employment opportunities for young agronomists.

- 5. Publication of IJA: Frequency of publication; cover page; outsourcing the publication; soft/hard copy distribution of Indian Journal of Agronomy:** Various issues related to publication of IJA were discussed at length. It was decided to publish IJA bimonthly from 2018 so as to increase total no. and quality of research papers with a possibility of publishing special issues on aspects like dryland farming, hill agriculture, coastal agriculture, etc.

The cover page of IJA may be redesigned and adopted w.e.f 2018. ISA may invite suggestions from members and Agronomy PG students and award the member/student for the selected and adopted cover page design.

Outsourcing the publication of IJA has been proposed by large no. of members, therefore, the following Committee was constituted to review the past exercise and fresh proposals to finalise the necessary action in this regard and submit the report/ recommendations to the President, ISA **latest by 31st July, 2017.**

Chairman: Editor-in-Chief

Convener: Dr V K Singh

Members: Dr D S Rana; Dr A R Sharma; Dr Y S Shivay; Dr Ashok Kumar; Dr P S Bodake;
Dr Satish Kumar; Dr Shiva Dhar; Dr R K Rana , NIAP/NCAP;
Expert Member, DKMA

Members of the view to strengthen the National Initiative of the Hon'ble PM to go Digital and bring down Carbon load and cost of publication. After long discussion, it was decided to give soft copy to all newly registered members w.e.f. January 2017 and all other members shall be communicated once about providing soft copy only w.e.f. 3rd Issue of the Journal through mail, communication slip in the Journal as well as placing information on the ISA website.

- 6. Developing fully functional online submission and tracking system of research papers:** Secretary, ISA apprised about the status of the online submission of papers which is partially operational. It was decided that the Committee constituted for outsourcing the publication of IJA above shall also review this matter comprehensively and submit the recommendations and action plan to ensure the fully functional online submission and tracking system of research papers to the President, ISA **latest by 31st July, 2017.**
- 7. Improving transparency in publication of research papers for rational distribution across Institution/Region/Crop:** It was felt to rationalize the publication of research papers in IJA keeping proper distribution across Institutions/Regions/Crops. It was decided that the Editor-in-Chief and Co-Editor-in-Chief shall ensure the same logically.
- 8. Improving NAAS rating of IJA:** As every member of ISA expect higher NAAS rating for the IJA, therefore, it was decided to take all necessary steps to take the NAAS rating at least 6.0 from 2018. A Committee was constituted to suggest ways and means to attain NAAS rating 6.0 and above. The Committee shall analyse and assess the issue from all possible angles and submit the report/ recommendations to the President, ISA **latest by 30th June, 2017.**

Chairman: Dr Arvind Kumar

Convener: Dr A R Sharma

Members: Dr S Bhaskar; Dr Ravindra Charry; Dr D S Rana; Dr Y S Shivay; Dr P S Bodake;
Dr Shiva Dhar ; Dr. Avil Kumar; Dr R K Rana; NIAP/NCAP;
Expert Member, DKMA

9. **Publishing Indian Society of Agronomy Newsletter - Frequency; type of publication; etc:** It was felt necessary to publish *Indian Society of Agronomy Newsletter* to apprise the Society members about the activities and accomplishments of the Society frequently. It was decided to publish first issue for the period of January-June, 2017 by **31st July, 2017**, subsequent two issues quarterly and shall switch over to bi-monthly publication from 2018. The Newsletter shall be published in soft copy and shall be distributed online and placed on the Website. The Editorial Board members for the Newsletter are as following:

Editor-in-Chief

Executive Editor : Dr Anchal Dass

Editors : Dr N K Jain; Dr Rajender Kumar; Dr Anil Kumar Choudhary; Dr Rajiv Kumar Singh;
Dr Kapila Shekhawat; Dr M D Vyas

10. **Publication of Agronomy Text Books for UG students based latest revised course content:** As Agronomy course curriculum for different courses has changed after V Deans' Committee recommendations, which are uniformly applicable for all SAUs, CAUs, therefore, it was decided to develop Agronomy Text Books for UG students all over India in both Hindi and English languages. It was decided to constitute a Committee to organize and supervise the publication of Text Books. The Committee shall submit the detailed proposal to the President, ISA **latest by 31st July, 2017** for getting approval of the EC.

Chairman: Editor-in-Chief

Convener: Dr Shiva Dhar

Members: Dr M A Shankar; Dr J Deka; Dr Thakar Singh; Dr S K Thakral; Dr J Chinnusamy;
Dr V Nepalia; Dr H S Thakur; Dr Bashir A Ahmad; Dr U V Mahadkar; Dr N S Rana
Dr Farooq Agha; Dr R P Sharma; Dr A S Bali

11. **Developing Agronomic success stories which enabled the country to achieve self-sufficiency and reliance in food production:** It was felt that there is general tendency among the non-agronomists to ignore the great contributions of Agronomists and their work done to achieve self-sufficiency and reliance in food production and improving the farm income. Therefore, it was decided to develop and finalized such 10 best agronomy success stories to showcase the contributions of agronomy. The appropriate write ups and videos be prepared for display and uploading on the electronic media. A Committee was constituted to organize the development and publicity of the success stories and shall submit the proposal to the President, ISA **latest by 31st July, 2017** for seeking approval of the EC.

Chairman: Dr Panjab Singh

Convener : Dr D S Rana

Members : Dr T C Jain; Dr D P Singh; Dr P L Maliwal; Dr M A Shankar; Dr S K Sharma, Ex-Director
Dr Kalyan Singh; Dr N T Yaduraju; Dr P K Ghosh; Dr D P Biradar; Dr N P Singh; Dr Ranbir
Singh; Dr A R Sharma; Dr A S Pawar; Dr A Arunachalam; Dr N K Jain; Dr S S Rathore
Dr Praveen Upadhyay

12. **Present financial status and modus operandi for raising financial status, membership fee, etc.:** Treasurer, ISA presented the financial status of the Society as comfortable but stressed to further mobilise funds to extend the activities of the Society and its Chapters. The matter of revision of membership fee was discussed and it was decided not to enhance the membership fees for Individual Members as it is already towards higher side, moreover, Society is also cutting the costs of publication of IJA by making soft copy distribution compulsory to new members' w.e.f. 2017. But the following membership fee was approved for the Libraries and Institutions (annually) as given below:

| Libraries & Institutions (annually) | Print | Online | Print + Online |
|--|--------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Indian (Rs) | 5,000/- | 5,000/- | 6,500/- |
| Foreign (USD or its equivalent) | 500 | 450 | 650 |

It was decided to make some concerted efforts to raise the funds and think comprehensively. A Committee was constituted to suggest ways and means to enhance funds for the Society and submit the report/recommendations to the President, ISA **latest by 30th June, 2017.**

Chairman: Dr V K Singh

Convener: Dr Ashok Kumar

Members : Dr G C Shrotiya; Dr D S Rana; Dr K D Singh; Dr Dilip Singh; Dr Dinesh Kumar;
Dr R M Kummur; Dr Gyanendra Shukla; Dr O P Singh; Dr Ajit Kumar;
Dr Rohitashva Singh; Dr Janardan Singh

- 13. Effective revision of list of life members of the Society with all relevant details:** Since most of the members have been requesting for complete updating of the list of Life Members like KYC in Banks, so the Society should take comprehensive measures to Know Your Member (KYM.). The State-wise list of Life members be updated with all relevant details like Name, designation, address, specialization, email, phone no., adhar no., etc. It was decided to constitute a Committee to initiate the effective and complete revision of the list of Life Members and submit the updated full and final list to the President, ISA **latest by 31st August, 2017.** Sh Sudhir Tanwar and Sh Sompal shall provide all Secretarial support to the Chairman and the Convener of the Committee.

Chairman: Dr R P Singh

Convener : Dr Rajiv Kumar Singh

Members : Dr A R Sharma; Dr K S Rana; Dr Shiva Dhar; Dr P S Bodake; Dr Ashok Gupta;
Dr Anil Kumar Choudhary; Dr R S Bana; Dr D K Pachuri; All Councillors

- 14. Issue of certificate to life members:** It was felt that timely issue of certificate to life members is must. Secretary, ISA informed that it is followed timely and in case any member wants, the duplicate Certificate can also be issued. It was decided that the Committee for outsourcing of publication of IJA may explore the possibilities of online generation of Certificates and other related activities.

- 15. Getting more positions for Agronomy Discipline in ARS, SAUs, and State Department of Agriculture:** It is important to ensure better employment opportunities for agronomists in public and private sectors which are getting lesser and lesser every day. It was felt that the Society shall take up this issue seriously so as to ensure the better future for budding agronomists. Since this matter is not easy to be handled, therefore, it was decided to take the guidance of elder and renowned agronomists who can effectively communicate and take initiative in this matter. A Committee of elders was constituted to find out ways and means to enhance the employment opportunities in ICAR, SAUs, CAUs, SDA, and other public and private sectors. The Committee shall take all necessary actions and submit report to the President, ISA **latest by 31st July, 2017.** The meeting of the Committee shall be held at Varanasi once and rest may be followed online.

Chairman: Dr Ambika Singh, Former President, ISA

Convener : Dr Kalyan Singh

Members : Dr Panjab Singh; Dr A S Faroda; Dr T C Jain; Dr G B Singh; Dr R P Singh, IAUA;
Dr R K Rai; Dr A K Dahama; Dr J S Bohra

16. Nomination of Councillors from AP, Odisha and Industry: After discussion, the following were nominated:

AP : Dr V Chandrika, Principal Scientist, Tirupati
Odisha : Dr L M Garnayak, Dean, COA, Bhubneswer
Industry: Dr R M Kummur, CMD, NABARD
 Dr O P Singh, President R&D, Dhanuka Agritech
 Dr Gyanendra Shukla, CEO, Monsanto Africa Ltd.
 Dr Rajvir Rathi, Vice President, Bayer Crop Science
 Dr D S Yadav, Director (Marketing), FAI
 Dr Shashikant Bhide, MOSAIC
 Dr Jitendra Kumar, Syngenta India Ltd.
 Dr Soumitra Das, IZA

17. Constitution of Editorial Board: It was felt to improve the quality of the Journal. As large no. of ISA Members have suggested to have simple structure of Editorial Board rather multi-layered Board with as many as 90 scientists, making it more decorative than functional, therefore, it was decided to have only 01 Editor-in-Chief, 01 Co-Editor-in-Chief and 70 Editors in the Editorial Board. After discussion, the following Editorial Board was approved by the EC,

Editor-in-Chief: Dr T C Jain, Ex-Senior Consultant, World Bank and Ex-ADG (NARP), ICAR
Co-Editor-in-Chief: Dr D S Rana, Emeritus Scientist

It was resolved that in case Dr T C Jain refuses to accept the assignment of Editor-in-Chief, then Dr R L Yadav may be considered. It was also resolved to select the Editors mainly based on following criteria to promote excellence in the subject, commitment for the Society, broadening and equitable participation as:

- Select agronomists with some accomplishments in the field and preference to FNAAS, ISA Gold Medallist, FISA, Directors, Deans, HODs
- Proportionate representation to all the states (based on total Life membership; 1/50 members)
- Opportunity shall be given to those who have not served particularly in last 4 years

The following Editors were approved after discussion for the Editorial Board.

| S.No. | State | Approved names |
|-------|------------------|--|
| 1 | AP | Dr A Pratap Kumar Reddy, Bapatata |
| 2 | ASOM | Dr. Biswajit Guha, Jorhat |
| 3 | BIHAR | Dr. J S Mishra, Patna Dr R P Sharma, Sabour |
| 4 | CHHATTISGARH | Dr. Anil Dixit, Raipur |
| 5 | DELHI | Dr. A. Arunachalam, New Delhi Dr. S K Dhyani, New Delhi Dr. N.K. Jain, New Delhi |
| 6 | GUJARAT | Dr. C.L. Patel, Navsari Dr M.K. Arvadia, Navsari Dr B K Sagarka, Junagadh |
| 7 | HARYANA | Prof. Ashok Kumar, Hisar Dr. J. C. Dagar, Karnal Dr. Jagdev Singh, Hisar |
| 8 | HIMACHAL PRADESH | Dr. H.L. Sharma, Palampur |
| 9 | JAMMU & KASHMIR | Prof. (Dr) Rehana Habib Kanth, Srinagar Dr. Dilip Kachroo, Jammu |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 10 | JHARKHAND | Dr. S.K. Pal, Ranchi |
| 11 | KARNATAKA | Dr. V.S. Korikanthimath, Dharwad |
| | | Dr. M.A. Shankar, Bengaluru |
| | | Dr. V.C. Patil, Dharwad |
| 12 | KERALA | Dr. George Thomas, Trissur Dr.(Mrs) Sheela K.R., Thiruanthapuram |
| 13 | MADHYA PRADESH | Dr. J.P. Dixit, Gwalior Dr. Girish Jha, Jabalpur Dr R S Sharma, Jabalpur |
| 14 | MAHARASHTRA | Dr. M.V. Venugopalan, Nagpur Dr D N Gokhale, Parbhani Dr. M.B. Dhonde, Rahuri Dr. P.G. Ingole, Akola Dr. S.A. Chavan, Dapoli Dr. V.S. Pawar, Malegaon |
| 15 | ODISHA | Dr. K.G. Mandal, Bhubneswer Dr. Basudev Behera, Bhubneswer |
| 16 | PUNJAB | Dr. Guriqbal Singh, Ludhiana Dr. S.S. Walia, Ludhiana |
| 17 | RAJASTHAN | Dr. Ashok Gupta, Jobner |
| | | Dr. Shanti Kumar Sharma, Udaipur |
| | | Dr. S S Tomar, Kota |
| | | Dr. Ishwar Singh, Jodhpur |
| 18 | TAMIL NADU | Dr. K. Velayudham Dr. P. Devasenapathy, Coimbatore Dr. S. Panneerselvam, Coimbatore |
| 19 | TELANGANA | Dr. G. Ravindra Chary, Hyderabad |
| | | Dr. G. Partibha, Hyderabad |
| 20 | UTTAR PRADESH | Dr. Om Prakash Chaturvedi, Jhansi |
| | | Dr. Babooji Gangwar, Modipuram |
| | | Dr. Dinesh Kumar Sharma, Lucknow |
| | | Dr. Vikrant Singh, Gurukul Narsan |
| | | Dr B P Singh, Bichupri |
| | | Dr. S.P. Singh, Varanasi |
| | | Dr. D.S. Yadav, Faizabad |
| | | Dr. C.M. Singh |
| 21 | UTTARAKHAND | Dr. Jaideep Kumar Bisht, Almora |
| 22 | WEST BENGAL | Prof. Kajal Sengupta, BCKV Dr. Rambilash Mallick, Calcutta University |
| 23 | NEH REGION & A&N | Dr. B. Gangaiah, Port Blair |
| | Statistician | Dr. (Mrs) Seema Jaggi, New Delhi |
| | Economist | Dr Amit Kar, New Delhi |
| | Physiologist | Dr. Vishwanathan, New Delhi |
| | Microbiologist | Dr K. Annapurna, New Delhi |
| | Soil Scientist | Dr B S Dwivedi, New Delhi |
| | To be nominated by Editor-in- Chief | |
| | International Scientists | - 04 |
| | National Scientists | - 04 |

18. Disposal of old records i.e. journals, periodicals and proceedings etc. which have been damaged by the termite and lying in the Divisional Store of Agronomy, IARI, New Delhi: A Committee was constituted to dispose-off the damaged and obsolete articles and submit the report to the President, ISA latest by 30th June, 2017.

Chairman: Dr V K Singh


Convener: Dr Y S Shivay


Members: Dr Ashok Kumar; Dr D S Rana; Dr Amal Ghosh; Dr S L Jat

19. Any other matter with permission of the chair: Following issues were raised as:

- i. Dr Dilip Singh and Dr Janardan Singh raised the issue of meagre DA of Rs. 100/ per day when the EC members come to attend the meeting. It was made clear and resolved that for permissible no. of meetings, all lodging and boarding expenses shall be borne by the Society.
- ii. Dr Dilip Singh also raised the issue to provide 2 AC fare to EC members instead of 3 AC. Dr. A. Velayutham raised the issue that members like him have to travel more than 50 hours to attend the meeting which causes hardship. It was resolved that looking to financial position of the Society, presently it would not be possible to provide 2 AC fare to attend the meeting but the problems faced by members may be considered in future with the improvement in the financial status of the Society.
- iii. The following were also resolved:
 - ISA secretariat shall take responsibility of providing all necessary logistic support to all the Committees for discharging their responsibilities in time schedule. The Secretary, ISA shall ensure this and coordinate with all Committees and facilitate them.
 - In all the future meetings of EC, the ATR on the previous meeting shall be presented by Secretary, ISA to assess the progress of the previous decisions taken.
 - Most of the Committees shall work and coordinate with outside members through email and phone so as to ensure minimum financial burden on the Society.
 - The President, ISA shall write a request letter, particularly to the senior level committee chairman/members for their consent as chairman/member and making the recommendations on the relevant issue.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to Chair.


22/5/2017
(Y S Shivay)
Secretary, ISA


22/5/17
(A K Vyas)
President, ISA

Copy to:
All EC members
ISA Website for all ISA members