

Proceedings of the General Body Meeting of Indian Society of Weed Science held on 5 February 2020 at ICAR-CCARI, Goa

A General Body Meeting of the life members of the Indian Society of Weed Science was held in the evening of 5 February 2020 at 5.30 pm at ICAR-CCARI, Goa to discuss matter related to the progress and activities of ISWS.

The following members were present:

- Dr. Sushil Kumar, President
- Dr. Bhumesh Kumar, Vice President
- Dr. Anil Kumar, Vice President
- Dr. Shobha Sondhia, Secretary
- Dr. V.S.G.R. Naidu, Joint Secretary
- Dr. B. Duray, Joint Secretary
- Dr. V.K. Choudhary, Treasurer
- Dr. J.S. Mishra, Chief Editor IJWS
- Dr. V.P. Singh, Immediate Past President



At the outset, Dr. Shobha Sondhia, Secretary of ISWS warmly welcomed all the members and gave an insight on the agenda of the meeting to be discussed. Dr. Sondhia then invited Dr. Sushilkumar, President, ISWS to preside over the meeting and take up the agenda items in details.

Dr. Sushilkumar, President, ISWS showed his gratitude to all the members for providing continuous support to the Executive Committee. He specifically mentioned the successful organization of the ISWS Golden Jubilee International Conference at Jabalpur in November 2018. He congratulated the newly-elected EC members and hoped that the new EC will take the Society to the greater heights. Dr. Sushilkumar thanked Dr. Devraj Arya for conducting election by e-voting and Mr. Gyanendra Pratap Singh for his immense help to update email IDs and mobile numbers of 900+ life members. Dr. Bhumesh Kumar suggested the name of Dr. Devraj Arya as Returning Office for next election to be held in 2021. The house appreciated the role played by Dr. Arya to conduct the last three elections of ISWS in very fair way. The house unanimously approved the name of Dr. Devraj Arya as Returning Officer.

Dr. V.P. Singh, Immediate Past President praised the activities of the ISWS and congratulated all the past EC team for successful organization of Golden Jubilee Conference of ISWS in Jabalpur.

Dr. Shobha Sondhia, Secretary of ISWS, presented a detailed report on the activities of the Society during 2019- 2020. She mentioned the following points in his report:

1. The ISWS successfully organized a Golden Jubilee event in Novemebr, 2018 at ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur.
2. A donation of Rs 1.0 lakh was received from Dr. L.S. Brar for Student Travel Grant.

3. A 'Travel Grant Award' to young scientist each year was initiated for the weed scientists up to the age of 35 years and who is in regular service with a travel grant Rs 35000/-. Dr. Roshan Choudhary, Assistant Professor, MPUAT, Udaipur was given this award for the year 2019 to participate in the 27th APWSS Conference at Malaysia.
4. Each EC member contributed Rs 10,000/- to the Society towards 'Student Travel Grant' to attend ISWS Conference.
5. Five students doing Ph.D were granted 'Student Travel Grant' to attend and present research paper during the conference.
6. Dr. Bhumesh Kumar promised to contribute Rs 50,000/- towards 'Student Travel Grant'.
7. ISWS also received publication grant of Rs 1.50 lakh and Rs 3.0 lakh grant for Organising Goa Conference from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
8. Members' particulars including Email / mobile number were updated.
9. Society website was improved, made more dynamic with several new user-friendly features, and updated on a regular basis.
10. Total 64 life members were added during 2018 and 2019. New members enrolled: 2018 – Life (27), Annual (87); 2019 - Life (37), Annual (62). Institutional members were 39 and 41 in 2018 and 2019, respectively. Total life members were 1018 by 2019.
11. Audit for the year 2018-19 has also been done by the Auditors.
12. It was also brought in the notice of house that at present society is registered in Bengaluru. Difficulties are being faced by the ISWS office to renew the society each year in Bengaluru. House suggested to transfer or dissolve the registration from Karnataka and register it under MP Society Act to avoid such difficulties in future. It was also suggested to update some clauses in bye laws while making new registration.

Dr. VK Choudhary, Treasurer, ISWS informed the house receipt and expenditure statement of the society during the last year. He informed that as per suggestions of Chartered Accountant, transaction of above Rs 10000 is being done by Cheque or Online transfer only. Dr. Choudhary informed that Society was having total assets of ₹ 1,12,07,706.61 by the end of 2019 including 8 FDs.

Dr. JS Mishra, Chief Editor informed the house about the timely publication of all issues of 2019 of Indian Journal of Weed Science. Dr. Mishra thanked all the members of Editorial Board and referees for critical evaluation of papers submitted in IJWS for consideration. He told that there was about 25% rejection rate of the papers and emphasized that this need to be increased to at least 35% to increase the NAAS rating.

Dr. Dr Bhumesh Kumar, Vice President, Dr. Anil Kumar, Vice President, Dr. V.S.G.R. Naidu, Joint Secretary and Dr. B. Duray, Joint Secretary also shared their views to enhance the visibility and transparency of the society.

After a thorough discussion on various issues related to the functioning of Society, the following points emerged:

- i. Concern was raised by some members on non listing of the IJWS in UGC recognized Journal list. It was decided that necessary efforts will be taken by the society to submit representation to include IJWS in the UGC approved list of Journals.

- ii. It was decided to delete the names of all such members from the database who have expired or difficult to trace. Councilors of respective states were requested to update the information.
- iii. Audit report of 2018-19 was presented on the financial status of the ISWS and approved.
- iv. In view of sufficient overseas participation, it was decided that society shall organize every fourth year an 'International Conference' instead of 'Biennial Conference' to make ISWS an international name.

On the basis of discussions in the GB meeting, the following resolutions were passed:

- i. Annual Library membership will be enhanced from Rs 7000 to Rs 10,000. It was decided to unchanged Life membership to attract more researchers to join the society.
- ii. It was decided that ISWS shall also participate in bidding process for organization of International Weed Science Congress in 2024 in India.
- iii. It was decided to delete the names of all such members from the database who have expired and are not responding and traceable.
- iv. To transfer/dissolve the society from Bengaluru to Jabalpur following the rules of Society's act.

All members expressed happiness at the outcome of the meeting. In the end a formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dr Shobha Sondhia, Secretary, ISWS.

Date: 24/4/2020


Shobha Sondhia
Secretary, ISWS