

SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS

(Registered under Societies' Registration Act-XXI of 1860. Registration No. 32833)

Registered Office: I-1703, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi- 110019, INDIA

Mailing Address B-133, Ground Floor, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi-110019, INDIA

Telephone: 011-40517662; e-mail: society.sca@gmail.com; website: www.ssca.org.in

Founder President

Late Prof. M.N. Das

President

V. K. Gupta

Executive President

Rajender Parsad

Patrons

1. *A.C. Kulshreshtha*
2. *A.K. Nigam*
3. *Bikas K. Sinha*
4. *D.K. Ghosh*
5. *K.J.S. Satyasai*
6. *Pankaj Mittal*
7. *Prithvi Yadav*
8. *R.B. Barman*
9. *R.C. Agrawal*
10. *Rahul Mukerjee*
11. *Rajpal Singh*

Vice-Presidents

1. *A. Dhandapani*
2. *P. Venkatesan*
3. *Ramana V. Davuluri*
4. *S.D. Sharma*
5. *V.K. Bhatia*

Secretary

D. Roy Choudhury

Foreign Secretary

Abhyuday Mandal

Treasurer

Ashish Das

Joint Secretaries

1. *Aloke Lahiri*
2. *Shibani Roy Choudhury*

Members

1. *Anil Kumar Yadav*
2. *B. R. Victor Babu*
3. *Manish Kumar Sharma*
4. *Manisha Pal*
5. *Piyush Kant Rai*
6. *Praggya Das*
7. *Rajni Jain*
8. *Rakhi Singh*
9. *Ranjit Kumar Paul*
10. *Rao Saheb Latpate*
11. *S.A. Mir*
12. *Sapam Sobita Devi*
13. *V. Srinivasa Rao*
14. *V.M. Chacko*
15. *Vishal Deo*

Ex-officio Members

1. *Chair Editor, S and A*
2. *Executive Editor, S and A*
3. *Director, IASRI*
4. *DG (Statistics), MOSPI*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS

Date: February 11, 2023 at 11.45 A.M.

Venue: The Meeting was conducted in Virtual Mode.

The Executive Council meeting was attended by the following members.

1. V.K. Gupta - in Chair
2. Rajender Parsad
3. Rahul Mukerjee
4. Rajpal Singh
5. Bikas Kumar Sinha
6. Manisha Pal
7. S.D. Sharma
8. Dipak Roy Choudhury
9. A. Dhandapani
10. Alope Lahiri
11. Shibani Roy Choudhury
12. Ashish Das
13. Praggya Das
14. Manish Kumar Sharma
15. Vishal Deo
16. Alka Arora –Special Invitee
17. Rahul Gupta- Chairman of the conference and Special Invitee
18. Parmil Kumar – Convener and Special Invitee
19. Pawan Kumar – Co-convener and Special Invitee
20. V.K. Shivgotra – Organising Secretary and Special Invitee
21. Sunil Kumar- Co-organising Secretary and Special Invitee

1. Condolences of the demised members

Tributes were paid to the three demised members of the Society, namely, G.K. Shukla, R.C. Chanda and Ram Karan Singh, who had left for their heavenly abode between the 24th and 25th conferences, by observing two minutes silence. Chairman expressed his deepest condolences on their sad demise. Prof. Rajpal Singh, Patron suggested that condolence message be sent to the address of the deceased member. It was informed, that this was being done.

2. Welcome address by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed the EC members present online. He reminded that after two online conferences in the years 2021 and 2022 organized by ICAR-NAARM, this conference is being held in hybrid mode. He thanked the Director,

ICAR-NAARM and his dedicated team for successfully organizing the unprecedented online conference for the second time in succession with perfection. The conference was a grand success and the contents were brilliant and enriching.

He informed that this being the silver jubilee year of the conference, various academic activities were planned during the year. Four web-workshops/seminars were organized in which renowned statisticians of international repute participated. The fifth web-seminar would be organized today evening (11.02.2023). These were:

1. 21.05.2022: Integrating Data from Probability Samples and Non-Probability Sample Sources: Can we make valid inferences? – A talk by Prof. J.N.K. Rao. The talk was chaired by Prof. Balgobin Nandram.
2. 23.07.2022: Multiple Bias Calibration for Valid Statistical Inference with Selection Bias. – A talk by Prof. JAE KWANG KIM. The talk was chaired by Changbao Wu.
3. 02.09.2022: Linear Algebra, Matrix Theory and Linear Estimation-Organiser and one of the speakers Prof. Simo Puntanen.
4. 31.10.2022: Statistical Modelling: Theory and Applications: Jointly organised by the SSCA and Manipur University. Prof. K.K. Singh Meitei was the organiser. Prof. Bikas K. Sinha was the co-organiser and one of the speakers.
5. 11.02.2023: Web seminar with discussions on “Sequential Multiple-Assignment Randomized Trials (SMARTs) for Dynamic Treatment Regimes (DTRs)’ to be organized by Bikas K. Sinha with Speaker as Bibhas Chakraborty, and Discussant as Aditya Chakraborty.

Chairman informed that all these events were well attended. Encouraged by such activities, society would organize these types of activities regularly in the future. He informed that in addition to the silver jubilee year of the society, this year also happens to be the birth centenary year of the founder President of the SSCA Late Prof M.N. Das. Keeping this in view, a half- day online workshop was organised to celebrate his birth centenary on his birthday 01 February 2023. The workshop had four presentations based on the work of the founder president and a panel discussion joined by his past students and collaborators. It was a befitting tribute to a great statistician and a noble person, who contributed vastly to the different areas of statistics including statistical computing.

3. Confirmation of the proceedings of the virtual EC meeting of SSCA held on February 23, 2022.

The said proceedings were circulated among the members of the Society. It was also hosted at the website of the Society. Since no comments were received on it, the same were confirmed.

4. Brief Report by the Organisers about the arrangements of the 25th annual conference

The Convener of the conference briefed the members about the arrangements made by the organisers. He informed that the conference programme had been finalized

in consultation with the President, Executive President and Treasurer of the SSCA. He informed that a WhatsApp group has been formed to include all the participants with a provision for knowing the latest conference schedule including the last-minute changes and also their place of accommodation, etc.. There are three places where the delegates would be accommodated. These places are Asia Hotel, SKUAST-J Guest House and University Guest House. To this, the Chairman suggested that the locations of these three places might be shared in the said group. He informed that there would be four places, where the presentations had been arranged both online and in hybrid mode. There would be three/four parallel sessions. The Organising Secretary then made a brief presentation. He informed that there had been 160 registrations of participants till date. The number might increase due to possibilities of last minute registrations. In all, there are 58 Invited Speakers and 95 contributed research papers with oral presentations.

Chairman was happy to learn about quite a large number of registrations. He then invited comments from the EC members, in particular the Executive President (EP) about the conference programme. EP appreciated the programme with a suggestion to shrink the programme on the last day so that the conference could close before 5 PM instead of 6.30 PM as scheduled. This was because of, what he predicted, compulsion of many delegates to catch the return flight/train in the evening. This could be possible because some delegates may not turn up for presentations, which will create slots for presentations. Moreover, if required four concurrent sessions might be arranged instead of three originally planned in the last session of the last day.

Treasurer proposed that there should be a photo session just after the inaugural session so that all the delegates, including the Chief Guest, and other guests, could be pictured together. It was agreed to by the Convenor. The Convenor and Chairman then explained the contents in the schedule with justifications.

The members also suggested that there might be a press briefing at the inaugural session. Convenor clarified that the contents of the briefing have already been prepared for providing to the press so that it is published on the first day of the conference.

5. Presentation of Secretary's Report

The Secretary, Dr. Dipak Roy Choudhury presented the report of the activities during the year 2022-2023. The presented report was quite elaborate and highlighted various activities of the SSCA and the new initiatives taken up. The report was divided in several sections. Each section of the report has been presented below:

5.1. Conference Organized in 2022

The last (Twenty fourth) annual conference of the society was organized by ICAR-NAARM, Hyderabad in Virtual Mode during 23-27 February 2022. It was a grand

success because of the untiring efforts of the members of the organising committee. It was the second time in succession that the online conference was organized by NAARM. The highly structured arrangements made by a very dedicated team of Dr. Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, ICAR-NAARM and Chief- Patron, Dr. G. Vaenkateswarlu, Convener, Dr A. Dhandapani, Organising Secretary, Dr. S. Ravichandran, Co-organising Secretary and their colleagues are praise worthy. Overall, the conference was academically very enriching for the delegates. The time efficiency was a mark of the conference. The sessions were organized with utmost devotion, care and timeliness. Please accept our heartfelt thanks.

5.2. Release of Special Proceedings of 24th (Web) conference held at ICAR-NAARM and regular issues of the journal

Special Proceedings comprising of few selected papers of the 24th annual conference of the SSCA have been released in September 2022 and are available at the website of the Society. The special proceedings were printed for distribution to its authors and others. Two regular issues of the journal [Volume 20, Issues 1 & 2 (New Series), 2022] having eighteen and twenty papers respectively, have been published during the year 2022.

5.3. M. N. Das Memorial Lecture

In order to perpetuate the memory of the Founder President Late Prof. M.N. Das, an M.N. Das Memorial Lecture is organised every year during the annual conference. The tenth memorial lecture was delivered by Prof John Stufken. The eleventh memorial lecture in this series will be delivered during the present silver jubilee conference by eminent statistician Dr. Padam Singh.

5.4. M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award 2023

The eighth M.N. Das Memorial Young Scientist Award - 2022 was bagged by S.M. Patil. This year, there were fourteen young scientists nominated for the award. After stringent review of the research papers received from them, the two, who qualified for presentation as per the rules, will be invited for making presentations during the conference. The result will be announced during the GB meeting.

As informed earlier, the financial support for this award is being given by the family of our Founder President, Late Prof M.N. Das.

5.5. A session on Financial Statistics

Like earlier four years, there will be a session on Financial Statistics this year too with four presentations.

6. New activities initiated during 2022-2023

6.1. Annual Endowment Lectures and Award

It was decided in the last GBM in the year 2022 that there would be following three endowment lectures and one endowment award presentation in

every annual conference of the SSCA starting from 2022:

1. B.K. Kale Memorial Endowment Lecture
2. J.K. Ghosh Memorial Endowment Lecture
3. Bikas Kumar Sinha Endowment Lecture
4. V.K. Gupta Endowment Award for Achievements in Statistical

Thinking and Practice.

The V K Gupta Endowment Award will carry a cash prize of ₹31,000/-

1. Endowment Lecture in memory of Prof. B.K. Kale, Retired Professor, Sabitribai Phule Pune University, Pune.

The first lecture was delivered by Prof. David D. Hanagal. The second lecture will be delivered by Prof. K. Muralidharan, M.S. University, Vadodara

2. Endowment Lecture in honour of Prof. Bikas Kumar Sinha, Retired Professor, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

The first lecture was delivered by Prof Sumo Puntanen, Finland. The second lecture will be delivered by Prof. T.J. Rao. Former Professor, ISI, Kolkata,

3. Endowment Lecture in memory of Late legendary Statistician, Prof. J.K. Ghosh, Former Director, ISI, Kolkata

The first lecture was delivered by Dr. Minerva Mukhopadhyay. The second lecture will be delivered by Dr. Durba Bhattacharya, Head of the Department of Statistics, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata.

4. Annual Endowment Award Lecture in honour of Prof. V.K. Gupta, to be known as 'Dr. V.K. Gupta Endowment Award for Achievements in Statistics Thinking and Practice'

The award is conferred annually starting from the last year 2022 during the annual conference of the SSCA. Dr. Arun K. Nigam, renowned statistician, was conferred with the award during the inaugural year and for the second year 2023, Prof. Bikas Kumar Sinha has been selected for the award and it will be conferred during the silver jubilee conference.

For initiation of the above Endowment Lectures and Award, Endowment money was paid by the relatives and students/well-wishers of the persons, in whose name the Endowment Lecture/Award has been initiated.

6.2. Pre-conference Workshop

A Pre-Conference Online Workshop on Reader-Focused Writing in Quantitative Sciences was organized by the SSCA one day before the commencement of the conference on 23rd February 2022. The Resource Person of the workshop was Prof. Jyotirmoy Sarkar, Professor and Statistics Consultant, Indiana University - Purdue University, USA. The society is also grateful to Prof Jyotirmoy Sarkar for his

valiant efforts in organising this workshop as a resource person. This year 2023, the Pre-Conference Seminar with Discussions is scheduled February 11, 2023, evening. It would be organized by Prof. Bikas K. Sinha.

7. Membership strength of the SSCA

The present strength of the SSCA in terms of its life members is 411 including 15 Foreign Members and 09 Honorary Members. Between the last conference and till date, 09 Indian members and 1 Foreign member have been enrolled as its members. The website of the Society is updated with the name and Email ID of the new member as soon she/he is enrolled as a member.

8. Professional/Academic achievements of Members

During the year, a number of members of the society have received laurels. As per the information received by the Society, renowned statistician Prof. Bikas Kumar Sinha has been decorated with the prestigious *Sankhyiki Bhushan Award* by the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics in the year 2022.

Dr. V.M. Chacko has been appointed as the Director of Research and Development Cell, St. Thomas College, Thrissur, Kerala in 2022.

Shri N.R. Shasranaman has been appointed as the honorary Human Resource Development Advisor, Sourastra Global Connect, Tiruchirappali, Tamil Nadu.

We requested all the members of the Society through e mails to please update about any promotions/appointments in their careers during the year. The responses are not encouraging.

On behalf of the Society, we convey our congratulations to the members for their grand achievements.

9. Filing of the IT Return for the FY 2021-2022 and presentation of the Audited Report

The treasurer presented the Balance Sheet of the SSCA together with the Audit Report for the financial year 2021-22. It has been informed that the Society had filed the IT Return for the financial year 2021-22 through its CA. Treasurer mentioned about the amount received by the Society as Corpus Fund for the annual Endowment lectures and award. Chairman remarked that the amount is very meagre looking into the liabilities that the Society has. So the corpus needs to be raised. He appealed to the members to help the Society in building up the corpus fund. It would be better if they help in getting the Society, few foreign memberships.

10. Election of Executive Committee (EC) Members

It was informed that as per the norms of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications (SSCA), every year, five out of a total of fifteen council members of

the Executive Council (EC) of the SSCA, who have completed 3 years of term in office, would be re-nominated/replaced by new members as suggested by the EC and approved by the General Body (GB). In the following year, 2023-24, five EC members who would be completing three 3 year- terms in office are, Praggya Das, Piyush Kant Rai, Manisha Pal, Manish Sharma and Anil Kumar Yadav. Moreover, the EC used to have three Joint Secretaries, but at present there are just two. It is becoming difficult to work with two joint secretaries because the activities of SSCA and S&A are increasing exponentially. So it was decided to nominate one more Joint Secretary. The Chairman also informed that a request was sent to Dr. G.P. Samanta, CSI and Secretary, MOSPI, Govt. of India, to join the Executive Council as Patron. The Chairman expressed pleasure to announce that we have now received the consent from his office to have Dr. Samanta as Parton. After much deliberations, the present EC recommend the EC for the year 2023-24 (given in Appendix).

The Society gratefully acknowledges the services rendered by Dr. Anil K Yadav, EC Member for his effective roles in managing the day-to-day work of the Society. It was also decided to send an appreciation letter to the out-going member for the services rendered by him in uplifting the stature of the Society.

11. Venue of the 26th Annual Conference of the SSCA

The Chairman informed that the Vice Chancellor of the Manipur University, Imphal has approved the proposal of its Department of Statistics to hold the annual 26th conference of the SSCA in February 2024. The proposal has been approved by the EC. It would now be placed before the GB for its final approval.

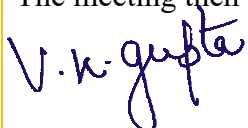
12. Comments/suggestions from EC Members

Prof Rahul Mukerjee, Patron of the society, was all praise for the activities and new initiatives taken up by the society in the recent past. He was very happy to inform that there are two journals from India, namely, 'Sankhya' and 'Statistics and Applications', which has been included in the 'Emerging Sources Citation Index'. It was a great satisfaction to him, he commented. He further informed that 'Sankhya' is a journal of ninety years, whereas, SSCA journal is young and only the twenty volumes of the 'Statistics and Applications' have been published till now. Getting such a recognition at such early stage is appreciative.

Chairman thanked Prof. Rahul Mukerjee for the complements and continuous support towards the upliftment of the society.

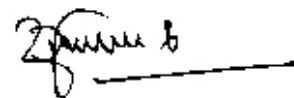
Chairman requested the members to please participate in the web-workshop on the same day (11.02.2023) and since it was a pre-conference workshop, he requested the Chairman of the Conference Prof Rahul Gupta and Convener of the conference Prof Parmil Kumar to welcome and offer vote of thanks respectively at the workshop.

The meeting then ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(V.K. Gupta)

President



(D. Roy Choudhury)

Secretary

New Delhi: 5th March 2023

APPENDIX

List of EC members of SSCA, recommended by the EC, for the year 2023-2024

Founder President

Late Prof. M.N. Das

President

V. K. Gupta

Executive President

Rajender Parsad

Patrons

1. A. C. Kulshreshtha
2. A. K. Nigam
3. Bikas K. Sinha
4. D. K. Ghosh
5. G.P. Samanta
6. K. J. S. Satyasai
7. O.P. Mall
8. Pankaj Mittal
9. Prithvi Yadav
10. R. B. Barman
11. R. C. Agrawal
12. Rahul Mukerjee
13. Rajpal Singh

Vice-Presidents

1. A. Dhandapani
2. Manish Sharma
3. P. Venkatesan
4. Praggya Das
5. Ramana V. Davuluri
6. S. D. Sharma
7. V. K. Bhatia

Secretary

D. Roy Choudhury

Foreign Secretary

Abhyuday Mandal

Treasurer

Ashish Das

Joint Secretaries

1. Alope Lahiri
2. Shibani Roy Choudhury
3. Vishal Deo

Members

1. B. Re. Victor Babu
2. Manisha Pal
3. Mukesh Kumar
4. Parmil Kumar
5. Piyush Kant Rai
6. Rajni Jain
7. Rakhi Singh
8. Ranjit Kumar Paul
9. Rao Saheb Latpate
10. Renu Kaul
11. S. A. Mir
12. Sapam Sobita Dev
13. V. Srinivasa Rao
14. V. M. Chacko
15. Vishnu Vardhan R.

Ex-officio Members

1. Chair Editor, S and A
2. Executive Editor, S and A
3. Director, IASRI