

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

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF STATISTICS, COMPUTER AND APPLICATIONS

Date: February 16, 2023 at 07.40 P.M.

Venue: Department of Statistics, University of Jammu, Jammu.

The Twenty Fifth General Body Meeting of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications (SSCA) was held under the chairmanship of Prof. V.K. Gupta, President. It was attended by the following members and Special Invitees. Since the quorum of the meeting was not complete (attendance 22) within half an hour of the appointed time at 7.40 P M, the meeting was adjourned for fifteen minutes and then restarted with same number of persons being present.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. V.K. Gupta- In Chair | 14. K. Muralidharan |
| 2. Rajender Parsad | 15. Manisha Pal |
| 3. Manish K. Sharma | 16. V.K. Shivgotra |
| 4. Pawan Kumar | 17. Alope Lahiri |
| 5. Padam Singh | 18. Ashish Das |
| 6. Prem Prakash Sharma | 19. Bilal Ahmed |
| 7. Anuradha R Chetiya | 20. Parmil Kumar- Special Invitee |
| 8. Vishal Deo | 21. Shibani Roy Choudhury |
| 9. K.K. Singh Meitei | 22. Dipak Roy Choudhury |
| 10. Saurav Guha – Special Invitee | |
| 11. Ranjit Kumar Paul | |
| 12. Mukesh Kumar | |
| 13. David D. Hanagal | |

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.

2. Welcome address by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed the GB members present. 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. Five web-workshops/seminars were organized in which renowned statisticians of international repute participated. 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 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 Simo Puntanen.
4. 31.10.2022: Statistical Modeling: Theory and Applications: Jointly organised by the SSCA and Manipur University. Prof. K.K. Singh Meitei was the organizer. Prof. Bikas K. Sinha was the co-organizer 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)’, organized by Bikas K. Sinha with speaker as Bibhas Chakraborty, and Discussant as Aditya Chakraborty.

Chairman informed that these 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 organized 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 fitting 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 GB meeting of SSCA held on 25.02.2022.

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. 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:

4.1 Conference Organised 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 organised by ICAR-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.

4.2 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.

4.3 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 in the year 2022. The eleventh memorial lecture in this series has been delivered on February 15, 2023 in this conference by the eminent statistician Dr. Padam Singh.

4.4 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, have been 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.

4.5 A session on Financial Statistics

Like earlier four years, a special session on Financial statistics was organized with four presentations.

4.6 New activities initiated during 2022-2023

4.6.1 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, Retired Professor, Sabitribai Phule Pune University, Pune. The second lecture has been delivered on February 15, 2023 (Day 1) by Prof. K. Muralidharan of 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. Simo Puntanen, Finland. The second lecture has been delivered online on February 15, 2023 (Day 1) by Prof. T.J. Rao. Retired Professor of 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 Minerva Mukhopadhyay, Faculty of IIT Kanpur. The second lecture has been delivered online on February 15, 2023 (Day 1) by Dr. Durba Bhattacharya, Head of the Department of Statistics, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata.

4. Annual Endowment Award 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 being conferred annually starting from the last year 2022 during the annual conference of the SSCA. Dr. Arun 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 has been conferred on February 16, 2023 (Day 2) 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 person, in whose name the Endowment Lecture/Award has been initiated.

4.6.2 Pre-conference Workshop

A Pre-Conference Online Workshop on Reader-Focused Writing in Quantitative Sciences was organised by the Society 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 was organized online on February 11, 2023. It was organized by Prof. Bikas K. Sinha.

4.7 Membership strength of the Society

The present strength of the Society in terms of its life members is 412 including 15 Foreign Members and 09 Honorary Members. Between the last conference and till date, 10 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.

4.8 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 statisticians Prof. Bikas Kumar Sinha and Dr Seema Jaggi have been decorated with the prestigious *Sankhyiki Bhushan Award* by the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics in the year 2022.

Dr Ranjit Kumar Paul of ICAR-IASRI has received the ISAS Fellowship Award.

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, Secretary congratulated the members for their grand achievements.

4.9. Vote of thanks to the officials of the SSCA

The Society has received strong support from the Executive Council Members, the Editorial Board, the life members of the society, the foreign members, the honorary members and all other friends and well-wishers, which is gratefully acknowledged. The SSCA looks forward to continuing support from one and all. Together we shall be able to strengthen the society and serve the scientific fraternity with renewed zeal, vigour and passion.

GB then approved the Secretary's Report.

5. Filing of the IT Return for the FY 2021-2022 and presentation of the Balance Sheet

The treasurer presented the Balance Sheet of the Society 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 funds. It was suggested by members that strong campaigning for enrolment of life membership may be made at the person to person level and same may be posted at the website of the society. Also an appeal for donation may be made at the website. The members enquired about the availability of any IT benefits to the donors. To this, the Chairman replied that the provision for such benefit is not there at the moment. It would be better if they help in getting the Society, few foreign memberships. The treasurer cleared that the Society does not accept foreign funds. Members enquired about the remuneration of the CA per year. Treasurer informed that it was ₹ 18,000/- (Rupees Eighteen Thousand) plus GST for filing all types of Returns and time to time advice.

Members enquired whether there was any effort by the SSCA to contact renowned publishers for publishing the Society journal. In that case, the cost of printing and dispatching the journals will be taken care of by the publisher. Reputed journals like Sankhya, Calcutta Statistical Association publishes the journals through the renowned publishers, namely, Springer and Sage respectively. Chairman replied that one renowned journalist was approached but things did not materialize. Rigorous efforts would be made again.

6. 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). Following proposals have been approved by the EC.

In the following year, 2023-24, the Council members would be completing 3 year-terms in office are, Praggya Das, Piyush Kant Rai, Manisha Pal, Manish Sharma. Anil Kumar Yadav and Rao Saheb Latpate. 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 the 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 patron. After much deliberations, the present EC recommended the EC for the year 2023-24 (given in Appendix) which was approved by the GB.

The Society gratefully acknowledges the services rendered by Dr. Anil K Yadav, Council 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.

7. Proposed venue of the 26th Annual Conference of the SSCA

The Chairman informed that the Vice Chancellor of the Manipur University 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. GB approved the same.

8. Announcement of the Result of the MNDM YSA 2023

Chairman declared the result of the MNDM YSA 2023. He complimented both the presenters, namely, Rajashri Laxman Salamwade (online) and Saurav Guha (in-person) for their excellent presentations and congratulated Saurav Guha for becoming the winner of the prestigious award. President hoped that both, being young research scholars, would try to serve the Society with greater enthusiasm. The winner received the award money and a certificate and the runners up received the virtual Young Scientist Merit Certificate. The original certificate would be sent to her by post.

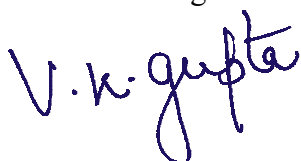
9. Vote of Thanks to the Organisers of the 25th Annual Conference of the SSCA

President thanked the organizers of the present 25th annual conference for their all-round performance in conducting a smooth and fruitful conference. On behalf of the Society, he expressed his highest appreciation for Prof. Rahul Gupta, Chairman of the conference for his excellent management of organizing a successful and stimulating conference. Organising such a fabulous conference,

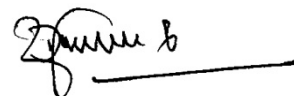
involves tremendous amount of confidence and energy. He expressed his highest gratitude to Prof. Parmil Kumar, the Convener of the conference, Prof. Pawan Kumar, Co-convener, Dr. V.K. Shivgotra, Organising Secretary, Dr Sunil Kumar, Co-organising Secretary, their colleagues/students/ Administrative officials for their dedication and hard work. The hospitality extended by the organizers and the boarding and lodging arrangements was excellent. President also expressed his pleasure over the student volunteers, who shouldered the responsibility to look after the delegates, right from their pick up, their accommodation, their food arrangements and transport. He remarked that overall the organizational part was brilliantly handled. Most amazing part of the conference was that there were 160 registrations with 143 speakers presented their papers. That itself speaks of the great success of the conference.

The members expressed satisfaction of the arrangements and thanked the organisers for accomplishing the herculean task. President expressed satisfaction over the arrangements and he thanked the Chairman and organisers for all the perfect arrangements.

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



(V.K. Gupta)
President, SSCA



(Dipak Roy Choudhury)
Secretary, SSCA

New Delhi: 11th 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 Kumar 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 Devi
13. V. Srinivasa Rao
14. V. M. Chacko
15. Vishnu Vardhan R.

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