

Proceedings of the virtual meeting of the Local Office Bearers (LOB) of the Society of Statistics, Computer and Applications

Date: March 15, 2022 at 07.30 P.M.

Venue: The meeting was conducted in Virtual Mode

The meeting of Local Office Bearers was attended by the following members:

1. V.K. Gupta - in Chair
2. Rajender Parsad
3. V.K. Bhatia
4. Dipak Roy Choudhury
5. Alope Lahiri
6. Shibani Roy Choudhury
7. Ranjit Kumar Paul
8. Vishal Deo

Special Invitees

9. Bikas Kumar Sinha
10. A. Dhandapani
11. Ashish Das
12. R. Vishnu Vardhan
13. B.N. Mandal

The Chairman welcomed the members present in the meeting. Thereafter, the agenda items of the meeting were taken up.

1. Requirement of a separate accommodation for the Society office

As per the decision taken at the Virtual Executive Committee meeting held on 23rd February 2022, the issue on the above-mentioned item was taken up and deliberated at length. Chairman supported the view of the members that it has been a burning issue since long time and needed urgent attention. There was an urgent need for the Society to have its Registered office since the present Registered office, which used to be the residence of the Late Founder President, has become non-functional as no member of his family presently lives there. Due to this, many important documents from Banks and other institutes posted to that address are returned by the present occupant (tenant) of the premises. He informed that there was a proposal from the members of hiring an accommodation for the Society. He was apprehensive that hiring of an accommodation would invite a yearly expenditure of about Rs. 4-5 Lac towards rent, electricity, internet connection, maintenance, etc. Views on other options were invited from the members. It was suggested that like other scientific societies, the Society should try to find an accommodation in a research institute/university/college at Delhi since the Society is registered at Delhi. In this connection, few of the members, who

were connected with University/research institutes, were requested to have their views on this aspect regarding helping the Society. They expressed their inabilities to help the Society on this issue due to administrative and other reasons. After a multiple suggestions from the members, the implementation of which appeared to be difficult, Chairman suggested that instead of hiring an accommodation, let the Society explore the possibility of purchasing a small accommodation in Delhi for a permanent registered address. He was of the view that the accommodation might even be at some remote area of Delhi so that purchase price might be modest. He asked the members to try to find such an accommodation with a small budget. If payment of money for purchasing the accommodation is a problem, then members might contribute some amount and request the well wishers of the Society living in India and abroad to donate money for purchase of office accommodation. In that way, at least a beginning would be made. Chairman suggested that after two months, the progress in finding a permanent accommodation might be discussed in a LOB meeting.

2. Venue of the 25th Annual Conference of the SSCA

It was informed that Dr. K.K. Meitei, Prof and Head, Department of Statistics, Manipur University, Imphal, had officially communicated the approval of the University to organize the in-person conference in 2023. The proposal as discussed during the GB Meeting held on 25 February 2022 and was approved. However, later, Prof Meitei informed the President that the University will not be able to organize the conference this year and would like to organize it during 2024. Chairman further informed that there is a plan to organize several Satellite Conferences during the year to mark the silver Jubilee Celebrations. One of such satellite workshops would be held at Manipur University, Imphal.

An appeal was made to all the members present to help the SSCA find an appropriate campus for holding the 25th Conference. Some possibilities could be University of Delhi, University of Madras, Pondicherry University, MS University, Baroda, etc. Some agricultural institute could also be a possibility.

3. Programme for the annual conference of the Society during the silver jubilee year

Chairman informed that a number of programmes have to be planned during the Silver Jubilee year of the conference (2022-23). One of them is the organization of 4-5 Satellite workshops across the cities of India. The plan is to have a seminar by Prof JNK Rao, a satellite workshop on linear algebra, matrix theory and linear estimation by Prof Simo Puntanen and his team; another workshop on Statistical Modelling – Theory and Applications by Prof K.K. Singh Meitei and his team, and so on. The Director, IASRI also expressed his desire to conduct on such satellite workshop.

Further, Dr. Ramana V. Davuluri would be contacted to be a Resource Person of an online workshop, which might be held in June-July 2022. Dr A. Dhandapani was requested by the Chairman to take care of the implementation aspect of the satellite and other online workshops, seminar talks etc.

4. Discussion on the proposal of Dr Rajpal Singh, Patron of the Society

The Secretary informed that he had received a letter from Dr. Rajpal Singh, Patron of the Society. In that letter, Dr Rajpal Singh reminded of his active involvement in the foundation of the Society along with Late Dr. Sukhpal Singh and urged that the Society should recognize their efforts by mentioning their names at its website and other related places like leaflet, brochures, etc. The matter was discussed at length during the said online meeting. All the members were of the view that the website of the Society did acknowledge the name of J.V. (PG) College, Baraut, U.P., where both of them were faculty and also, where the idea of the formation of the Society was conceptualized. The role of founder members in the formation of the Society was also acknowledged at the website.

It was acknowledged unanimously with the collective wisdom of all present during the meeting that there is no doubt that the contributions of Dr. Rajpal Singh and Late Dr. Sukhpal Singh along with other founder members of the Society towards the initiation of the Society were tremendous and have no parallel. Both have been in the Executive Committee of the SSCA since the beginning. However, the members expressed unanimously that giving names at the website is not desirable and whatever is presently written at the website clearly and loudly acknowledges the importance and role of Department of Statistics, JV (PG) College, Baraut, UP in formation of the society.

The members of the LOB thus resolved that at present the website very loudly acknowledges the significance of the Department of Statistics, JV (PG) College, Baraut, UP and all its founder members. This is more than enough, and we should refrain from mentioning individual names.

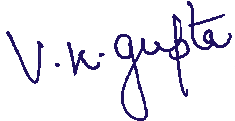
5. Fixing of the terms of the EC members

As per the decision taken at the online EC meeting of the SSCA held on February 23, 2022, the discussion on the proposal of fixing of the terms of the EC office bearers was opened again at this meeting. Like EC meeting, it was debated at length at this meeting also. Different members aired their views on whether the term of the EC office bearers should be fixed or not. Most of the members were of the view that the office bearers should not have any fixed term for being in office except for the 15 members of the EC. As per the norm of the Society, at the most five of the 15 members of the EC, who have completed three- year term in office, would be replaced or re-nominated every year as per the decision of the EC and ratified by the General Body (GB). Other office bearers would continue in office until and unless they opt out voluntarily due to personal or other reasons. The list of office bearers and members of the EC are placed before the EC every year at its meeting and the formation of the EC for the following year is agreed to amicably. Because of that, no election has been required till now.

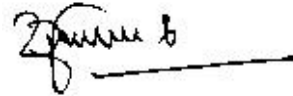
Most of the LOB members and special invitees present, were of the view that since the track record of the Society is par excellence with the relations between the EC members being

cordial, the present system of formation of EC every year amicably by the EC followed by the ratification of GB should continue. It was opined that since the EC consists of mostly the senior persons of the levels of Professors/retired Professors of international repute, their presence in the Society Executive Committee is utmost necessary for helping the Society with time-to-time advices, for the enhancement of the reputation of the Society not only in India but globally.

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



V.K. Gupta
President, SSCA



Dipak Roy Choudhury
Secretary, SSCA

New Delhi; April 14, 2022
