

## *Minutes of the*

# **First Meeting of Executive Council (2019-21) of Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi**

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**Date :** Dec. 31, 2018    **Time :** 12 noon onwards

**Agenda :** Annexure 1

**Venue:** Dr H.B. Singh Committee Room of the ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi

<b>Chair</b>	Dr R.S. Paroda	President, ISPGR
<b>Members</b>	Dr Kuldeep Singh	Vice President (VP), ISPGR
	Dr R.C. Agrawal	Vice President (VP), ISPGR
	Dr Dinesh Kumar	Treasurer, ISPGR
	Dr Rakesh Singh	Joint Secretary (JS), ISPGR
<b>Member Secretary</b>	Dr Anuradha Agrawal	General Secretary (GS), ISPGR

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### **Agenda 1 & 2: Welcome and Introductory Remarks**

- Dr Anuradha Agrawal extended warm welcome to all the new members of the EC, and thanked the outgoing EC for their contribution towards activities of the Society including holding of Congress, Brainstorming meetings, Lectures, Award Functions, timely publication of Indian Journal of Plant Genetic Resources and other books/publications.
- Dr R.S. Paroda also congratulated the new EC and urged that all members should actively contribute in raising the level of Society to newer heights.

### **Agenda 3: Progress on organization of mini-symposium during 13th International Conference on Dryland Development (ICDD), Jodhpur, Feb. 11-14, 2019**

- The GS informed that the previous EC of ISPGR had approved and initiated organization of a **Mini-symposium on 'Agrobiodiversity in Drylands – Meeting Food and Livelihoods for Climate Change Adaptation'**, to be held during the '13th International Conference on Dryland Development (ICDD)', at Jodhpur, from Feb. 11-14, 2019. Earlier, Dr J.C. Rana had drafted a concept note, tentative program and had sent invitations to speakers and panellists.
- The program was discussed in detail and members recommended few changes. It was felt that the activities be expedited for organizing the event. The EC also agreed to transfer Rs 2 lakhs to the ICDD organizers, towards the sponsorship of the Mini-symposium.

*(Action : General Secretary, Joint Secretary and Editor-in-Chief)*

### **Agenda 4: Nomination of Councillors from West Zone**

- As no nominations had been received from West Zone for the post of two Councillors, EC would like to identify and nominate two scientists possibly during the ICDD event.



(Action : General Secretary)

#### **Agenda 5: Update on ISPGR Awards**

- Dr Anuradha Agrawal informed that ISPGR awards for 2018 had been advertised in mid Nov. 2018, and the last date of application was Dec. 31, 2018. Since time was short, only a few applications (~12 for 4 awards) had been received. Hence, she proposed that last date of application be extended to Jan. 31, 2019. The same was agreed by EC. The GS was requested to announce the extended date by email, to all members.
- It was also informed to the EC that Mr Raju Barwale, MAHYCO, had sent a letter informing that Barwale family would like to donate Rs one lakh towards the 'Dr B.R. Barwale Award for Application/Excellence in PGR', to facilitate enhancement of the award money. As the donation is expected every year from the family, EC agreed to increase the award money from Rs 50,000 to Rs one lakh, with immediate effect. The enhanced award money to be informed to all concerned and reply be given to Mr Barwale about the offer.
- EC suggested that Award function be organized by March-April, 2019, in which lecture by Dr Kamal Bawa could be arranged, subject to his availability. A formal letter of request to Dr Bawa be thus forwarded.

(Action : General Secretary)

#### **Agenda 6: Update regarding accounts and journal of ISPGR**

- Dr Dinesh Kumar, Treasurer, presented the status of accounts of ISPGR (*Annexure 2*). The EC expressed satisfaction over the status and requested the Treasurer to further increase the revenue through an aggressive membership drive, involving all zonal councillors. The EC also suggested that signatures be changed for the new office bearers for operation of the bank account in Syndicate Bank (# 91212010004780).

(Action : Treasurer)

- As Editor-in-Chief (EIC), Dr Sunil Archak could not attend the meeting, he has provided a report giving the update on journal activities (*Annexure 3*). The EC appreciated the progress and decided to hold detailed discussions in the next EC meeting.

#### **Agenda 7: Any other Item**

- Dr Kuldeep Singh, Vice President, opined that ISPGR should undertake exercise to assess the status and quality of research on PGR being undertaken in the country. Institutional and policy reforms to help the system need to be deliberated. The EC suggested that an expert group of past directors of NBPGR and few other peers be formed to have a brainstorming/round table dialogue on the subject. The outcome could thus be used to plan for a national symposium on re-orientation of PGR research.

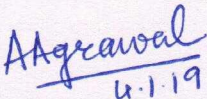
(Action : Dr Kuldeep Singh and General Secretary)

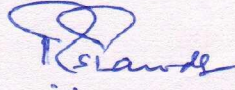
#### **Agenda 8: Remarks by Chair**



- Dr Paroda expressed happiness at the growth of Society during the last few years. He advised that all the original important documents/records of ISPGR be kept safely in a locker, and a set of photocopy/digital record be maintained in the ISPGR office.
- He also opined that there was need to re-visit the constitution of ISPGR, especially with reference to various awards, including some details about election process. The EC agreed to undertake an exercise for the revision of the constitution by forming an expert committee.
- He suggested that ISPGR should plan for a National Symposium either during end of 2019 or early next year, as a follow-up of the IAC2016. He also informed that the 2<sup>nd</sup> IAC will be hosted by Bioversity International in 2020, in Rome, for which ISPGR would be a co-organizer.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to Chair and all EC members by Dr Rakesh Singh, JS.

  
**Anuradha Agrawal**  
 (General Secretary)

  
**R.S. Paroda**  
 (President)



**First Meeting of the ISPGR Executive Council (EC) (2019-2021)****Dec. 31, 2018 (12 noon)**

Dr H.B. Singh Committee Room, ICAR-NBPGR, Pusa Campus, New Delhi - 110 012

**AGENDA**

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12.00 – 12.05 p.m.	Welcome Remarks	<b>General Secretary, ISPGR</b>
12.05 – 12.10 p.m.	Introductory Remarks by Chairman	<b>President, ISPGR</b>
12.10 – 12.25 p.m.	Progress on organization of mini- symposium during 13th International Conference on Dryland Development (ICDD), Jodhpur, Feb. 11-14, 2019	<b>General Secretary, ISPGR</b>
12.25 - 12.30 p.m.	Nomination of Councilors from West Zone	<b>General Secretary, ISPGR</b>
12.30-12.35 p.m.	Update on ISPGR Awards	<b>General Secretary, ISPGR</b>
12.35 - 12.40 p.m.	Update regarding accounts and Journal of ISPGR	<b>Treasurer, ISPGR &amp; Chief Editor, IJPGR</b>
12.40 - 12.45 p.m.	Any other item, with the permission of Chair	
12.45 - 12.55 p.m.	Concluding Remarks by Chair	<b>President, ISPGR</b>
12.55 – 1.00 p.m.	Vote of Thanks	<b>Joint Secretary, ISPGR</b>

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### Treasurer's Report - Update on Accounts of ISPGR

The status of ISPGR accounts (as on 31.12.2018) is as follows:

<b>General reserve</b>	Brought forward (2017-18)	<b>62,86,874.44</b>
<b>Cash and Bank Balances</b>		
FD		53,60,108.35*
Cash-in Hand		Nil
Cash in Bank (saving account)		5,81,679.36
	<b>Total</b>	<b>58,78,787.71</b>
Incomes (up to Dec 31, 2018)	(membership, donation etc.)	<b>11,11,221.29</b>
Expenditure (up to Dec 31, 2018)	(journal, award function, secretarial expenses)	<b>6,90,464.06</b>

\*After interest Rs 57,18,801.99 by July 2019

#### Committed Expenditure (up to March 31, 2019)

1. **Rs 2.00 lakhs** for 13th International Conference on Dryland Development, in which Mini-Symposium on Agrobiodiversity in Drylands- Meeting Food and Livelihoods through Climate Change Adaptation, will be co-organized by ISPGR.
2. **~Rs 1.00 lakh** for journal publication [IJPGR, Vol. 32(3)]
3. **~ Rs 2.5 lakhs** for ISPGR Award cum Lecture (Dr D.S. Athwal/ Dr A.B. Joshi lectures) Function

#### Expected Income (up to March 31, 2019)

1. **~Rs 2.0 lakhs** from ICAR for IJPGR
2. **Rs 1.0 Lakh** from MAHYCO towards Dr B.R. Barwale Award
3. **~ Rs 2.0 lakhs** from Library subscription of IJPGR





# Indian Journal of Plant Genetic Resources

An international journal for conservation and use of plant diversity

(Official Publication of Indian Society of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi)

Print ISSN: 0971-8184

Online ISSN: 0976-1926

**Sunil Archak**  
Editor-in-Chief

## Report of Editor-in-Chief, Executive Committee Meeting, Dec 3, 2018

Respected members of the new EC,

I am happy to present before you the EIC report for the year 2018.

I was given responsibility of EIC with effect from 17.10.2017. In the last 12 months:

- (i) A meeting of Delhi-based editors was organized at NBPGR. Several actions were suggested to improve the quality and visibility of IJPGR (*proceedings attached*). Following actions have been initiated:
  - a. Editorial team was expanded to the current strength of 15 Indian and four foreign members (*see point 2 of the proceedings*) and more sections are being added gradually (*point 5 of the proceedings*).
  - b. Advice of EC sought to name the editor team as "Editorial Board" (*point 1 of the proceedings*); identify more foreign editors (*point 3 of the proceedings*); displaying communicating editor's name on the manuscript (*point 4 of the proceedings*).
  - c. IJPGR is interacting with Indianjournals.com to include "online first" and "supplementary data" for the articles published in IJPGR (*point 6 of the proceedings*).
  - d. All the information about IJPGR sought by Springer India was provided as per format. Names of expert reviewers of the Journal were also given. Review results are awaited from Springer India. (*point 7 and 8 of the proceedings*).
  - e. As per UGC requirements, information about IJPGR is published at <http://ispgr.nbpgr.ernet.in/Journal.aspx> as well as provided to Indianjournals.com.
- (ii) Current NAAS rating of IJPGR is 5.12 (2017). As per my discussion with NAAS staff, getting NAAS impact factor beyond 6.0 depends first on obtaining a Journal Impact Factor (Science Citation Index, Thomson Reuters, Clarivate Analytics). Our online publishers Indianjournals.com have submitted the journal information to Thomson Reuters on 27-4-2017 for consideration. Direct follow up will be done to be reported in the next meeting.
- (iii) All the pending manuscripts (unattended, under review, pending for publication) from the past years have been cleared up to 2016.

Status of the manuscripts					Publication status			
Year	Received	Rejected	Under review	Accepted	Vol	Issue	Due date	Publication date
2018	89	23	58	8	31	1	1 Apr 2018	06 Mar 2018
						2	1 Aug 2018	20 Aug 2018
						3	1 Dec 2018	07 Jan 2019

Thank you one and all.

(Sunil Archak)

29.12.2018

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E-mail: [ispgr2015@gmail.com](mailto:ispgr2015@gmail.com) Publisher website: [www.nbpgr.ernet.in/ispgr](http://www.nbpgr.ernet.in/ispgr)

Journal hosting and online submission of manuscript: [www.indianjournals.com](http://www.indianjournals.com)

NAAS 5.12 (2017): Indian Citation Index 0.096: Indexed/Abstracted on Google Scholar





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## Proceedings of meeting of IJPGR Editors held at ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

A meeting of Delhi-based editors of IJPGR was organized at ICAR-NBPGR by Dr. Sunil Archak, Editor in Chief. Drs S Kochchar, Ruchira Pandey, Anjula Pandey, Anuradha Agarwal, Kavita Gupta, Celia Chalam, M C Yadav and Manjusha Verma (special invitee) attended the meeting. At the outset, EIC welcomed everyone and explained in brief origin of the meeting and the need for deliberations among editors. Several pertinent issues relating to enhancing IJPGR's quality and efficiency were presented. The structured presentation was followed by a demonstration of the "**online review and editorial system**" by representative of Indian Journals, who host IJPGR online.

The decisions of the meeting to be put up as recommendations to the EC/GB of ISPGR are as below:

1. Rename EIC and editors as "**Editorial Board**" as is the international style in vogue.
2. **Expand** the editorial strength by adding names of Drs. Rakesh Singh, Manjusha Verma, Lalit Arya, Vandana Tyagi, K Pradheep, N Shiva Raj, Veena Gupta and Sherry Jacob
3. **Seek advice of EC on adding as editors** names of Ashutosh Sarker, ICARDA; PK Joshi, IFPRI; Arun K. Joshi, CIMMYT; and Javed Rizvi, ICRAF among others.
4. **Communicating editor's name** must appear on every article published to give credit to editors. It will also make editors responsible for the quality of the paper. This is followed by most of the international journals now.
5. IJPGR should **add various sections** including article, review, short communication, meeting report, news, commentary, in conversation and opinion. This style shall enable IJPGR cover greater information in content and variety.
6. It was agreed that IJPGR should get enhanced facilities like "**Online first**" (to enable faster availability of articles and reduced publication time) and "**Supplementary data**" (to enable compact journal with uniform article sizes as well as availability of enhanced information to researchers).
7. All editors expressed that IJPGR should try to **associate with Springer** (to make the journal more noticeable, quicken the editorial process, increase the impact factor, journal indexing and widen the geographical base of authorship as well as readership) for all publication process. EIC informed the house that the process has been initiated.
8. The choice of system between continuing with Indian Journals and looking afresh for International journal publishers like Springer publisher needs to be resolved at the earliest keeping in view effective functionality and financial viability.
9. As is the practice in high impact journals, submitting authors may be asked to mention names of reviewers. Based on this create a composite section wise list of reviewers.
10. Editors strongly suggested that before sending manuscript to them, actions like plagiarism check and journal format consistency must be checked by an editorial assistant to maintain proper editorial rigor and keeping the review process on time.

The meeting ended with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Anuradha Agarwal, Treasurer of ISPGR.