

Report of the secretary presented at the 50th Annual General Body Meeting of the Indian Phytopathological Society held at Babasahed Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad, February 17-19, 1998.

Mr. President, Members of Indian Phytopathological Society, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasant duty to welcome you to the 50th Annual General Body Meeting of the Society and present to you the Annual Report for 1997.

The Society is grieved to inform that three eminent members of our Society, e.g., Prof. G. Melchers (Germany), Dr. S.S. Jain (Baraut, Meerut), Dr. V.B. Bidari (Dharwad) and Sh. Giridhari Lal ji, an integral part of IPS since its establishment, left for their heavenly abode. We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and pray to God that may their souls rest in peace.

Dr. C.D. Mayee delivered the 50th Presidential Address on "Sustainable Management of Diseases of Sunflower" which was chaired by Dr. G.S. Shekhawat.

National Symposium on "Present Scenario in Diseases of Oilseed and Pulses" was organised under the Chairmanship of Dr. C.D. Mayee, President IPS. Out of 15 invited speakers, only 10 could present their papers in the symposium.

During the Annual Meeting, the Society organised four Award Lectures by various eminent scientists. We are extremely grateful to Dr. G.S. Shekhawat for delivering Mundkur Memorial Lecture; Dr. R.P. Purkayastha for Prof. S.N. Dasgupta Memorial Lecture; Dr. P. Vidyasekharan for Jeersannidhi Award Lecture and Dr. B.L. Jalali for Prof. M.S. Pavgi Lecture Award. The topics of Award Lectures were of great significance and would be valuable source of reference when printed in Indian Phytopathology.

During 1997, the total number of members as on 31st December stood 1331 including 108 new members. At present, the Society has 204 subscribers. Some old annual members could not renew their membership so far, I earnestly request them to please clear the dues as early as possible.

The Zonal Chapters of the Society remained active during 1997 and various symposia and discussions were held at their Zonal Meetings on important aspects of plant diseases, viz., eco-friendly approaches in plant disease management, integrated disease man-

agement, microbial biotechnology, diagnosis of important plant diseases, etc.

During 1997, 203 manuscripts were received for publication in Indian Phytopathological Society. We have published Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of Vol. 50 and No. 4 is in press. The credit for maintaining the journal upto date goes to Chief Editor Dr. A.K. Sarbhoy and Editor Dr. Mahendra Pal.

This year 111 contributory papers were displayed through posters. The poster paper entitled "Express method for the evaluations of natural fungitoxicant *Trichyspermium ammai*" by Sushil K. Shahi and A.C. Shukla of Allahabad was recommended for award of IPS Medal for the best poster paper. In addition, two poster papers namely "Use of cheaper available substrates for mass multiplication of bio-agent, viz., *Trichoderma* spp" by S.J. Gaikwad and U.R. Sangale of Nagpur and "Studies on the properties on an isolate of watermelon mosaic potyvirus - 1 with reference to purification, electron microscopy and serology" by Gourgopal Roy, R.K. Jain, Ishawara Bhat and Anupam Varma were recommended for Commendation Certificate. Our heartiest congratulations to them.

For Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Academic Merit Award Contest, nine young participants contested. I have great pleasure to announce that the judges have recommended the presentations of Avijit Roy, IARI, New Delhi for his work on "Mixed infection of *Hippeastrum stylosum* by poty and carlaviruses" and of Dr. Robin Gogoi, IARI, New Delhi for "Biochemical basis of resistance in wheat against Karnal bunt" as joint winner for Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Academic Merit Award. The judging committee also recommended the Commendation Certificate to Dr. P.K. Chakrabarty of Nagpur for his work "Plasmid-borne pathogenicity attributes of *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *malvacearum* and cloning and characterization of pathogenicity genes from a highly virulent strain".

The Society celebrated its Golden Jubilee from November 10-15, 1997 and organised an International Conference on "Integrated Plant Disease Management for Sustainable Agriculture". Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, UNESCO Professor of Ecotechnology and Chairman, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai

inaugrated the Conference. Nearly 700 delegates representing 32 countries participated in the Conference. Nineteen symposia sessions were organized covering topics dealing with integrated management of plant diseases, characterization of plant pathogens, biocontrol of plant diseases, application of biotechnology for plant disease management, host pathogen interaction, global issues and environmental concern. Group discussions were also organized on priority concern of plant health like changing disease scenario in rice-wheat cropping systems, seed health certification, Karnal bunt of wheat, *Phytophthora* diseases, rhizobacteria, transgenic plants for disease management, sanitary and phytosanitary related issues and soil solarisation. An important feature of the Conference was the plenary lectures delivered by eminent scientists, which included Prof. R.J. Cook (USA), Dr. Roger Beachy (USA), Dr. B.D. Harrison (UK), Dr. Adrian Gibbs (Australia), Dr. Roy Johnson (UK), Dr. J.C. Zadoks (Netherlands), Prof. R.B. Singh (India), Prof. Anupam Varma (India) and Dr. J.P. Verma (India). Dr. R.S. Paroda, Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) and Director-General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) delivered the valedictory lecture.

Several recommendations were made in the Executive Council Meeting which are put for kind consideration of G.B. and approved. Application of 108 scientists for admission as membership IPS were approved.

Thirteen members of IPS namely Drs. Appa Rao Podile, C.A. Raju, D.S. Mukadam, A.K. Gupta, S.R. Reddy, S.S. Navi, D.R. Saxena, Rashmi Aggarwal, R.R. Mallikarjuniah, H.A.K. Sarwar, S. Desai, Vijendra Nath and J.C. Bhatt were admitted as Fellows of Indian Phytopathological Society (FPSI).

The paper entitled "Studies on *Arabidopsis* - *Agrobacterium* interaction" by Drs. N.P. Eswara Reddy and M. Mallikarjuna Reddy was recommended as best paper published in *Indian Phytopathology* Vol. 49 (1996) for Prof. M.J. Narasimhan Medal Award.

The award of Mundkur Memorial Lecture to Dr. P.K. Koshy, Kayangulam, Prof. S.N. Dasgupta Memorial Lecture to Dr. V.K. Gupta, Palampur; Jeersannidhi Lecture Award to Dr. R.P. Thakur, Hyderabad and Prof. M.S. Pavgi Lecture Award to Dr. U.P. Singh, Varanasi were approved.

The report on IPS Golden Jubilee International Conference on "Integrated Plant Disease Management for Sustainable Agriculture" was presented by Secretary. It very much appreciated and approved.

A column "Letter to the Editor" would be intro-

duced in the Journal (*Indian Phytopathology*) so that the members can comment on technical matters regarding publication.

The limit of articles of different Lecture Awards should not exceed 20 typed pages of A4 size or 15 printed pages including graphs, figures, tables and references.

It was suggested that from the Zonal Meeting presentations, five full papers may be selected by the Zonal President and after proper referring and editing, they may be recommended to the Chief Editor for publication in *Indian Phytopathology*.

Secretary presented a brief account of IPS Golden Jubilee International Conference. It was decided that accounts of Golden Jubilee should be settled and transferred to IPS account as early as possible. Audited accounts may be presented in the next E.C. Meeting.

It was decided that one latest computer (Pentium II) should be purchased alongwith laser printer upto the cost of Rs. One lakh.

The membership fee of the society should be raised as follows from January 1, 1998.

Annual Member Fee : Indian - Rs. 150 to 200/-; Student - Rs. 100/-; SAARC Countries - Rs. 1000/- (on the demand from members of SAARC Countries during Golden Jubilee); Foreign - From US \$ 25 to US \$ 50/- and Associate Members - From Rs. 50/- to Rs. 80/-.

Life Member Fee : Indian - Rs. 2500/-; SAARC - Rs. 5000/- and Foreign - From US \$ 300 to US \$ 500; Subscribers Fee : Indian - From Rs. 800/- to Rs. 1200/-; Foreign - From US \$ 80 to US \$ 150/- and SAARC - Rs. 5000/-.

Note : i) Discount of 10% will be allowed to subscribers. ii) SAARC memberships will be reviewed after two years.

It was decided that the Registration number of the Society would be printed on the reprints to get 50% discount on postage.

The proposal of Prof. M.J. Thirumalachar for increase of amount for Narasimhan and Jeersannidhi Award was considered. Executive Council thankfully acknowledged the gesture of Dr. Thirumalachar and Secretary was requested to take necessary action.

It was decided that IPS medal for best poster presentation in the Annual Meeting should be named in

the memory of Late Shri Giridhari Lal Ji as "Giridhari Lal Memorial Medal".

The salary of Headquarter staff was raised from January 1, 1998 as follows :

Business Manager - From Rs. 1800/- to Rs. 2500/-; Computer Assistant - From Rs. 2000/-; Three part time staff - From Rs. 550 to 600/-; From Rs. 400 to 450/- and From Rs. 250 to 300/-

It was felt that the Society needs to keep track of despatch of the Journal and other correspondence. Society can have computerized addressograph which can be corrected from time to time. The Zonal Presidents/Councillors should be entrusted with the responsibility of communicating correct addresses of their respective zones to Headquarters, which will be incorporated every year after new body takes over.

This year, the contest was held for President Elect, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and President and Councillor for Mid-Eastern Zone. Based on results given by Vote Counting Committee and unopposed elections, the 1998 E.C. will be : President - Prof. Anupam Varma; President Elect - Dr. S. Nagarajan; Secretary (1998-2000) - Dr. Dharam Vir Singh; Joint Secretary (1998-2000) - Dr. R.C. Sharma; Treasurer (1998-2000) - Dr. K.D. Srivastava; Presidents and Councillors: Dr.

J.P. Gupta and Dr. A.N. Srivastava (Delhi Chapter), Dr. N. Rishi and Dr. M.S. Chauhan (Northern Chapter), Dr. R.P. Singh and Dr. R. Pandey (Mid-Eastern Chapter), Dr. M.M. Prasad and Dr. B.K. Singh (Eastern Chapter), Dr. A.S. Patil and Dr. J.G. Vaidya (Western Chapter), Dr. T.B. Anil Kumar and Dr. Nagaraju (Southern Chapter), Dr. G. Bagyanarayan and Dr. K. Satya Prasad (Central Chapter).

The Society is grateful to Indian Council of Agricultural Research for timely grant of Rs. 60,000/- for the publication of Indian Phytopathology, 1998.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. C.D. Mayee, our worthy President for the guidance and sincere advice in day to day functioning of the Society. I also take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Executive Council for their cooperation, advice, support and suggestions on various matters. Finally, I am very much thankful to all the members, who have come from various parts of the country to attend the meeting and making it a grand success. Last but not the least, my thanks are due to Shri. R.L.P. Singh, Shri Lalit Saini, Shir Rajendra Prasad and Shri Upendra, all IPS Staff of Headquarter.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(D.V. Singh)
Secretary