Proceedings of 4th Executive Council (EC) held on Jan 2, 2021 through video conferencing

The following EC members participated through video conferencing:

1. Dr. G P Singh - President
2. Dr. S K Singh - Vice President
3. Dr. S K Pradhan - Vice President
4. Dr. R K Sharma - Secretary
5. Dr. Akshay Talukdar - Editor
6. Dr. Amit Kumar Singh - Treasurer
7. Dr. Anjani Kumar Singh - Councilor - Northern Zone
8. Dr. Sharad Tiwari - Councilor - Central Zone
9. Dr. S C Misra - Councilor - Western Zone
10. Dr. S Ganaga Prasad - Councilor - Southern Zone
11. Dr. Narender Kumar Singh - Councilor - Mid Eastern Zone
12. Dr. Mayank Rai - Councilor - Eastern Zone

Dr. R K Sharma, Secretary welcomed the President and other EC members who joined the meeting through virtual conferencing. President welcomed Members and initiated the discussion on different issues. The agenda items as circulated by the Secretary were taken up. Item wise the decision taken was as follows:

1. Review of the progress on the decision taken in 3rd EC meeting held on 26th September, 2020
   - Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd Executive Council meeting held on 26th September, 2020:
   - The proceedings of 3rd EC meeting held on September 26, 2020 were circulated among the EC members. No comments/objections were received from any of EC members. EC approved the proceedings. The action taken on the various agenda items were also presented by the Secretary and EC expressed satisfaction on the progress.

2. Progress of works of the society: Brief report by the Secretary, Treasurer and Editor.
   Dr. R K Sharma, Secretary highlighted the progress of works achieved after the last EC meeting. He informed the house that a total of 27 missing issues (belongs to 15 different years) were collected and uploaded on website. Binding work of these issues was also completed. He sincerely acknowledged the efforts made by Dr S M S Tomar in restoring some of these old issues of the Journal. Dr. Sharma also informed that a total of 22 issues (1941 to 1975) are still not available on the archive. He urged the EC members to cooperate on this matter.

   Dr. G.P. Singh, President opined that the list of missing issues (1941 to 1975) should be communicated to all the members of the Society so that everyone can put effort to collect it from the source(s) wherever available and submit to the Society.

   Dr. Amit Kumar Singh, Treasurer presented the updated information on the financial status of Society. The EC express satisfaction on the financial status of the Society.
Dr. Akshay Talukdar, Editor presented the status of publication of the Journal. The EC expressed satisfaction on the fact that in spite of Covid-19 pandemic, all the four issues of Journal were published on time.

The EC lauded and approved the progress made by the society during this period.

3. Progress in selection of the ISGPB Fellow

Secretary informed the house that a total of 35 applications were received and following scientist were selected for the fellowship of the society:

a. Dr. Praveen Chuneja, PAU, Ludhiana
b. Dr. M Vignesh, IARI, New Delhi
c. Dr. Abdul Fiyaz R, IIRR, Hyderabad
d. Dr. Suma S Biradar, UAS, Dharwad
e. Prof. Bidhan Roy, U BKV, Coochbehara
f. Dr. Vaibhav Kumar Singh, IARI, New Delhi
g. Dr. M Balram, COA, Jagtial
h. S Alameru
i. Dr. S L Krishnamurthy, CSSRI, Karnal
j. Dr. Amit Kumar Singh, NBPGR, New Delhi
k. Dr. Dharam Pal, IARI, Regional Station, Shimla
l. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh, IARI, New Delhi

4. Finalization of the date and mode of the Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of the Society

The matter was discussed in the EC and it was decided to hold the AGM through Video conferencing in the last week of Jan or First week of Feb, 2021. The exact date and time will be worked out soon in consultation with the EC Members and will be communicated to all the members. *(Action: Secretary, ISGPB)*

5. Society’s Awards

Secretary informed the EC that as a follow up action of the 3rd EC meeting decision, the applications for the ISGPB awards have been invited by the society.

6. Organization of Webinar during current year

It was decided that two webinar one on “Wild Relatives in Crop Improvement” and “Renascence of Hill Agriculture through Advanced Genetics and Crop Breeding Interventions for Food and Nutrition Security” will be organized in association with partner institutions. *(Action: Secretary, ISGPB)*

7. Organization of National/International Seminar on completion of the 80th year of the Society

It was decided that a National Seminar of three days’ duration will be organised at BHU Varanasi during Dec 10-12, 2021. Dr S K Singh, Vice President of the Society will take necessary step to obtained permission from the University authorities. *(Action: Dr. S K Singh, Vice-President)*

8. Contract with the Indianjournals.com

After a thorough discussion in the EC, it was decided that in compliance of the previous agreement, the Society will supply the required hard copies of the Journal to the indianjournals.com for the year 2020. Further, Dr. Akshay Talukdar, Editor and Dr. Amit Kumar Singh, Treasurer in consultation with Dr. Shard Pradhan, Vice President will further negotiate with the Indianjournals.com for continuation of the agreement for the year 2021. *(Action: Editor & Treasurer, ISGPB)*
9. Printing copies of journal
   - As a follow up action of decision taken in 3rd EC Meeting, it was further confirmed that
     starting from the volume to be appeared in 2021, only 200 copies of the Indian Journal of
     Genetics and Plant Breeding will be printed to meet the requirement of the library and other
     subscriptions, and complimentary copies to be given to various agencies, etc.

10. To make society’s website (www.isgpbo.org) more interactive
    - The Secretary informed the EC that to achieve the target of making the Society’s website
      more interactive and user friendly, a firm specialized in this job was invited for discussion.
      The firm came for discussion and even presented a demo of the likely improvement to be
      made to the website. However, the firm is yet to submit a concrete proposal for
      consideration of the Society. Therefore, it was decided by the EC to empower Dr. Akshay
      Talukdar, Editor and Dr. Amit Kumar Singh, Treasurer to work further in this direction
      with more firms specialized in the job. (Action: Editor and Treasurer, ISGPB)

11. Holding election of the society through electronic system
    The Secretary informed the EC that the process of updating the e-mail address of all the
    members is in progress. In response to the 1st circular, many members have responded;
    however, more members are yet to update it. The EC expressed satisfaction in the progress
    made; however, it urged to expedite the process so that next election of EC can be held
    through electronic voting system only.

12. Constitution of committee for evaluation of applications for various ISGPB awards
    For evaluating the applications for various ISGPB awards announced recently, the EC
    approved a Committee and Secretary ISGPB will communicate to the Chairman and
    members of this committee to get their consent for the same

13. Any other items with permission of Chair
    The decision on the following points (other than scheduled agenda items), were also taken
    by the EC:

    • Increase in salary of the society staff
      Secretary, ISGPB informed the EC that the salary of the staff working in the Society’s
      office has not been increased in the last four years. Therefore, he proposed a 10 percent
      increase in the consolidated salary w.e.f. Jan 2021. The EC approved the proposal. Since
      there was no increase of salary for last 4 years, the EC also decided to give the staff a one-
      time bonus amount of Rs. 5000/- each. Further, considering the price rise and increasing
      cost of living in the metropolitan city like Delhi, the EC approved 10% annual increase in
      the salary of the staff from January 2022 onwards.

    • Opening of new Chapter of the society
      The society considered the proposal of Dr. Balram Marathi for opening a New Chapter of
      the ISGPB in Hyderabad. The EC discussed the matter and agreed to ask for a formal
      proposal with all relevant documents. Based on fulfillment of the requirements, the EC will
      take a decision on it.

    • Formation of committee to review scoring system of ISGPB Fellowship
      The EC felt that there is a need to review the score card for selecting the Fellows and award
      of the Society. After thorough discussion, the EC decided to formulate a Committee with
      the following members to scrutinize and prepare a standard score card.
      Dr T K Behera (Chairman),
      Dr. Akshay Talukdar, Member
Dr. Amit Kumar Singh, Member-Secretary
The committee will revise and improve the score card and submit its recommendation to the EC.

- **Issue of EC members applying for ISGPB award, Fellowship, etc.**
The issue of EC members applying for various awards and Fellowship offered by the Society was raised by the Secretary for discussion. It was thoroughly discussed by the EC and decided that in order to avoid any conflict of interest and maintaining the higher standard of transparency, no EC member will be eligible to apply for any Award or Fellowship of the ISGPB till he/she is holding the portfolio of the EC of the Society.

- **Sharing of financial benefits of conference, seminar, etc.**
The EC decided that the savings accrued by any organization (University, Institute, Society, Chapter of ISGPB, etc.) from organizing Seminar, Webinar, Symposium, etc. in association with the ISGPB, has to be shared with the ISGPB in the ratio of 40:60, i.e., 40% for the ISGPB. For that matter, a MoU will be signed between society and organization before using the name and logo of the ISGPB for such event.

The meeting ended with formal vote of thanks proposed by Secretary to President and other participating members of EC.

\[\text{Signature} \quad \text{Signature}\]

Secretary

President