

**Proceedings of the joint meeting for handing over and taking over the charge of outgoing Executive Council (EC) and incoming EC of Indian Society of Agronomy held on March 19, 2011 at 10:00 AM, Division of Agronomy, IARI, New Delhi**

The following were present in the meeting

1. Dr Arvind Kumar, DDG (Edu.), ICAR & President of ISA
2. Dr I.P.S. Ahlawat, Chief Editor in the outgoing EC
3. Dr A.K. Vyas, Head, Agronomy & Member (Outgoing EB)
4. Dr D.S. Rana, Secretary, ISA
5. Dr Ashok Kumar, Treasurer, ISA
6. Dr Shiv Dhar, councilor Delhi in outgoing EC
7. Dr M.S. Pal, Joint Secretary, ISA
8. Dr R.K. Pannu, Councillor, Haryana
9. Dr Y.V. Singh, Councillor, Delhi

At the outset, Dr Ashok Kumar, Treasurer as well as working Secretary of the Society in the absence of Dr B. Gangaiah extended hearty welcome to Dr Arvind Kumar, DDG (Edu) and President of incoming EC of ISA and other members of the outgoing and incoming EC of the Society. He appraised the house about the elected members of the New Executive Council of the Society. He also appraised the house that following members has expressed their inability to attend the meeting due to unavoidable circumstances.

- 1) Dr M.S. Gill President, outgoing EC of ISA
- 2) Dr N.T. Yaduraju, Vice-President outgoing EC of ISA
- 3) Dr V.M. Bhale, Joint Secretary of outgoing EC and Vice-President of incoming EC
- 4) Dr Jayanthi Chinnusamy, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu
- 5) Dr G.C. Shrotriya, New Delhi
- 6) Dr Sanjay Wanjari, IISS, Bhopal, M.P.
- 7) Dr N.N. Angiras, Head (Agronomy), HPKVV, Palampur, H.P.
- 8) Dr G.S. Buttar, Head (Agronomy), PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab

Dr I.P.S. Ahlawat, Chief Editor in the outgoing EC also extended hearty welcome to Dr Arvind Kumar DDG (Edu.) ICAR & President of ISA and requested him to conduct the proceedings of the meeting in the absence of Dr M.S. Gill, President in the outgoing EC of ISA.

Dr Arvind Kumar, President ISA at the outset welcomed the members present in the meeting. He put on record a lot of appreciation to the members of outgoing EC for the contribution made by

them for raising the visibility of the Society. He observed that during their tenure the publication of Indian Journal of Agronomy was well in time. Biennial Symposium organized by them at Bengaluru was also a grand success. He stated that Indian Society of Agronomy is a prestigious Society having more than 2000 life members, number of national awards and good financial health. He informed the members that NAAS rating of Indian Journal of Agronomy has declined from 6 to 5 in the last review. This decline is a matter of deep concern for all the EC members of the Society. He emphasized to improve the quality of the journal as well as parameters on which the NAAS rating is decided and assured the house to bring back NAAS rating of the journal to 6.0 or more than 6.0. Dr Kumar desired to make efforts to improve the life membership of Society especially enrolling the young scientists from the State Agricultural Universities. He expressed the need to take up this issue with SAU's. He also desired to increase the libraries and institutions membership and for that he emphasized to prepare the list of libraries in the SAU's and ICAR Institutes, which are not members of the ISA. Based upon the list, matter may be taken up with the concerned authority through Email and other media of communication.

Dr Kumar appraised the members that ISA had organized two International Agronomy Congress in 1998 and 2002. He observed that there is no taker to organize the next International Agronomy Congress so far, so ISA should take initiative to organize the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Agronomy Congress in India by November, 2012. He desired to discuss this issue with background papers in the next EC meetings. In the mean time, Dr Kumar desired to take into confidence the well known agronomists of the world and other scientists, technocrats and administrators on this issue. There is need to identify at least 5 potential agronomists from each country and should interact with them on E-mail/telephone on this issue.

He appraised the members that financial position of the Society is sound enough, so the Society should come forward to support financially faculty and students for taking training in Institutes of International repute. It should also come forward to provide counselling to Agronomy students for taking admission in Institute of International reputes. He desired to share the activities of

the ISA with past EC members especially the past Presidents of the Society viz. Dr P.S. Lamba, Dr Punjab Singh, Dr A.S. Faroda and Dr D.P. Singh and other senior agronomist viz. Dr V. Kumar, Dr M.C. Saxena and Dr Ramender Singh to have their blessing and advice for improving the image of the Society. He expressed the need to maintain minimum standard of the Society office for face lifting of the Society. He desired to put efforts to bring all activities and information of the Society on line. We should also make efforts to further improve the financial health of the Society. In order to reduce the gestation period of research paper and to improve its quality, it was decided to refer a research paper to two referees, however, its publication can be considered even on the basis of comments of one referee, if second failed to offer comments within stipulated period of time. At this juncture, Dr R.K. Pannu, Councilor from Haryana raised the issue of publishing short notes/communication along with full length papers in Indian Journal of Agronomy. He stated that the Society has discontinued the publication of Agronomy Digest, as a result of which M.Sc. and Ph.D. students are facing problem to publish their research papers based on one year experimentation. This is discouraging them to become life member of the Society. This issue was discussed at length and it was decided to consider the issue in the next EC meeting after analyzing its impact on the quality of the journal and other related issues. Chairman of the meeting, Dr Kumar observed that most of agronomists lack skill of writing a good quality paper due to which they are not in position to publish their research work in journal of good NAAS rating. He expressed the need to develop a practical manual containing tips on how to write a good quality paper. There is need to assign this job to a group of agronomists having excellent writing skill.

Dr Ashok Kumar raised the issue of nominating councillors from the states and industries, from where no nomination received at the time of biennial election of Society. He also stated that EC has to constitute Editorial Board for the biennial 2011-2012. In pursuance of this following nomination for the councillor were made for the States and Industry from where no nomination was received.

**STATES**  
Assam

**NAME OF THE COUNCILLORS**  
Dr Khagen Kurmi, Profess of Agronomy, Department of Agronomy

<b>Bihar</b>	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, Assam Dr R.P. Sharma, Chief Scientist cum University Professor, Department of Agronomy, BAC, Sabour, Bhagalpur, Bihar
<b>Himmachal Pradesh</b>	Dr Dinesh Badiyala, Senior Seed Production Scientist, Department of Seed Science & Technology, CSK HPKV, Palampur, H.P.
<b>Jharkhand</b>	Dr M.S. Yadav, Head, Department of Agronomy, Birsa Agricultural University Kanke Ranchi, Jharkhand
<b>Kerala</b>	Dr Jose Mathew, Professor, Agronomy, VII/900 © Madona, 'Mannuthy, Thrissur, Kerala
<b>West Bengal</b>	Dr Budhadeb Duary, Department of ASEPAN, Palli Sikhsha Bhavana, (Institute of Agril.) Visva Bharti, P.O. Sriketan, Birbhum, W.B.
<b>NEH Region</b>	Dr Anup Das, Senior Scientist, Division of Agronomy, ICAR, Research Complex for NEHJ Region, Umiam, Meghalaya
<b>Industries</b>	Dr W.S. Guleria, Dy. General Manager (Marketing), KRIBHCO, A-10, Sector-1, Noida, Distt. G.B. Nagar 201 301, U.P. Dr R.K. Tewatia, Chief (Agricultural Services), Fertilizer Association of India 10, Shaheed Jit Singh Marg, New Delhi-110 067 Dr Sunil Vijay Kaore, IFFCO, Ltd. IFFCO Sadan, C-1, Distt. Centre, Saket Place, New Delhi Dr R.M. Kummur, General Manger (NABARD), Haryana Regional Office, Sector-34 A, Chandigarh-160 022, Haryana Dr K.G. Wankhade, Chief Executive, Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative Ltd., 401-402, Laxmi Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi

It was also decided to constitute the editorial board in the next meeting of the EC.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to Chair.

(D.S. Rana)  
Secretary

(Arvind Kumar)  
President