

Minutes of the 6th General Body Meeting of ASSOPI

(held on 13th September, 2019, at 6.30 PM at JSS Medical College, Mysuru)

AGENDA

The sixth meeting of General Body (GB) of Association of Physiologists of India was conducted at JSS Medical College, Mysuru, on 13th September, 2019, at 6.30 PM. Thirty-nine life members of ASSOPI participated in the meeting and the following agenda items were discussed.

1. Welcome address by President

General Secretary informed that Prof. Narsingh Verma, President, ASSOPI, has informed earlier that he will not be able to be present in the GBM as he has to attend an emergency meeting at his institute in Lucknow and therefore he left conference venue in the afternoon of 13th September. General Secretary requested Prof. S. B. Deshpande, Immediate Past President to preside over the GBM in the absence of president. Prof. Deshpande agreed to preside the meeting.

Prof. Deshpande welcomed all the members to the 6th GB meeting of the association. At the outset, he requested all members to stand up and observe 2 minutes silence as mark of respect for Late Prof. S. N. Sharma, the founder Vice-President of ASSOPI, who left his mortal body on 15th Jan, 2019. After the homage was paid to late Prof. S. N. Sharma, General Secretary gave a brief account of contribution of Prof. S. N. Sharma to ASSOPI.

Prof. Deshpande briefly highlighted the major achievements of ASSOPI in last one year and thanked General Secretary for making all sincere efforts for a steady progress of ASSOPI. In his introductory remarks, Prof. Deshpande said that ASSOPI being a new organization, all members should motivate other physiologists to become life member of the association.

President requested General Secretary to take up and discuss the agenda items of GB as listed in the Agenda.

2. Approval of the minutes of the 5th GB meeting held on 28.09.2018

Dr. G. K. Pal informed that the minutes of the 5th GB held on 28th September, 2018, at Pramukh Swami Medical College, Karamsad, Gujarat, was circulated to the members through news bulletin November-December, 2018 issue and it was also displayed in ASSOPI website, requesting the members to provide their comments/inputs for correction/modification, if any. However, as no comments/inputs have been received so far; hence he requested GB to approve the minutes. GB approved the minutes of the 5th GB held on 28th September, 2018.

3. Presentation of annual report by General Secretary

Dr. G. K. Pal, General Secretary, presented the report of ASSOPI of last one year (October 2018 – September 2019). The summary of the report is depicted below.

Report of General Secretary, ASSOPI 2018-2019

1. Newly enrolled life members: **57** (Total life members as on 10.09.2019: **359**)
2. News bulletin published: 3 issues (Nov-Dec, 2018; Jan- March, 2019; May-June, 2019)
3. Nomination/Application and finalization of various ASSOPI Awards:
 - Total nominations received: 15 award applications and 1 fellowship nomination

Name of the Award	Award Winner
Prof. A. S. Paintal Award (Best research work in Physiology)	Dr. Bindu M. Kutty, Professor, Dept. of Neurophysiology, NIMHANS, Bangalore
Dr. Artatran Nanda Memorial Award (Best research work in Respiratory Physiology)	-
Prof. S. B. Deshpande Award (Best research work in Neurophysiology)	Dr. T. N. SathyaPrabha, Professor & Head, Dept. of Neurophysiology, NIMHANS, Bangalore
Prof. G. K. Pal Award (Best research work in Cardiovascular Physiology)	Dr. Prathamesh H. Kamble, Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology, AIIMS, Nagpur
Shri Ram Murti Memorial Award (Best research work in Yoga and Naturopathy)	-

Shri B. M. Patil Memorial Award (Best research work by a scientist below the age of 45 years)	Dr. Satish G. Patil, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Physiology, Shri B. M. Patil Medical College, Hospital & Research Centre, Bijapur
Shri S. N. Choudary Memorial Award (Best research work in Environmental Physiology)	Dr. Kalpana Bharwal, Asst. professor, Dept. of Physiology, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar
JIPMER Golden Jubilee Award (Best research work conducted by a postgraduate student in Physiology)	Mr. Katuri Ravi Babu, PhD Scholar, Dept. of Physiology, JIPMER, Puducherry
Prof. S. K. Singh Award (Best research work conducted by an undergraduate medical student)	Mr. Auropakash Pal, Third year MBBS Student, JIPMER, Puducherry
Ramesh Bijlani Lifetime Achievement Award in Medical Sciences	-
Fellowship Title of Association of Physiologists of India (FAPI)	Dr. Mrunal Phatak, Dean (Academics), Professor & Head, Dept. of Physiology, AIIMS, Nagpur

4. Affiliation to other societies:

- i) Application or affiliation to FIPS: Dr. Pal informed that in the last GBM of FIPS held at DIPAS, New Delhi in December, 2017, he raised the issue of inclusion of ASSOPI into FIPS, for which he has already submitted written application two years before in FIPS Congress held at Kolkata in December, 2015. The decision was deferred stating that some bye-law amendment has to be made to include new organization into FIPS. As Dr. Pal had raised a strong protest to it and it was informed to him that in the next GB a favourable decision will be taken. Everyone expressed concern about the issue as after four years of submitting application for admission of ASSOPI into FIPS, no decision has been taken yet.
- ii) Application has been submitted for admission of ASSOPI into SAAP: Dr. Pal informed that he had personally submitted application of ASSOPI to be admitted to Prof. Arif Siddiqui, Secretary General of South Asian Association of Physiologists (SAAP) in SAPP Conference held in Dhaka, in December, 2014. But, but no decision has been taken so far. Dr. pal said he has spoken to Prof. Arif Siddiqui a week before regarding the status of inclusion of ASSOPI into SAAP forum and Prof. Siddiqui has assured him that he will do something concrete to admit ASSOPI into SAAP in a short future.

- iii) The process of registration with IUPS has started: Dr. Pal inform EB that preliminary works for ASSOPI to join IUPS as an honorary member (without voting right) without payment has been started. Once e-mail IDs of life members are updated, which is a requirement for this registration, the process will be completed.

5. ASSOPI Representation to MCI

Dr. Pal informed that in response to notification by MCI for revamp of PG Curriculum, many members of ASSOPI requested him to give a representation to MCI for improving the standards of PG education in Physiology in the country and to increase the job opportunity for physiologists in the country. Therefore, a committee was formed in the month of April to go into the details of it and the report of the committee was put up in the EB and OB WhatsApp forum for comments from senior members of ASSOPI. After receiving, inputs from EB/OB members, the report was finalized and the report has been submitted to MCI in July, 2019, for implementation. All the members appreciated the effort of General Secretary in doing such a great work for the association and for all the physiologists of the country and commented that this is a Vision Document of ASSOPI and a wonderful report that all of us should work to ensure the fulfilment of the major demands listed in the document. The report was unanimously approved by GB.

6. Zonal activities:

- i) A Scientific Rangoli Competition was organized at Dr. Ram ManoharLohia Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, under the auspices of ASSOPI, under the leadership of Prof. Nitin Ashok John, on 6th March, 2019.
- ii) Under the auspices of ASSOPI a National Physiology Quiz & Simulation Workshop will be conducted on 11th & 12th Oct 2019 at SGRD Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Amritsar, Punjab.

4. Approval of ASSOPI Awards, 2019

Dr. G. K. Pal, Gen. Secretary informed the GB that a total of only 15nominations were received for various awards of ASSOPI, and a committee consisting of three subject experts for each award was constituted for evaluating the nominations. The report of the committee was approved by the President of ASSOPI. GB approved the list of recipients of ASSOPI Awards, 2019. Dr. Pal mentioned that nominations for various awards were very less this year compared to last year. He requested all members should encourage their colleagues and students to participate in the competition for different ASSOPI awards. And it was informed to GB that as per President's suggestion, for Life Time Achievement award, if there are no nominations received, then a special Search Committee will be formed under the Chairmanship of General Secretary to find

out a physiologist or an eminent scientist having notable contribution to be nominated for the life time achievement award. GB approved the proposal for the formation of Search Committee for Life Time Achievement Award, and entrusted GS to form the committee as and when required.

5. Presentation of Audited statement of account for 2018-2019

Audited statement of account was presented by Dr. S. Velkumary, Finance Secretary of ASSOPI. After a detailed discussion, the audited statement of account was approved by the GB.

6. Affiliation to other bodies like FIPS, SAAP, etc.,

Dr. Palinformed GB that it was discussed above, in the Annual Report presented by him.

7. ASSOPI Journal

Dr. G. K. Pal informed GB that it was decided in the 5thGB meeting of ASSOPI held on 28thSeptember, 2018, at Pramukh Swami Medical College, Karamsad, Gujarat, that the International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Physiology (IJCEP) can be made as Official Journal of ASSOPI. However, IJCEP could not be made the official journal of ASSOPI due to the technical issues like the MOU has to be changed and amount spent for the journal so far to be paid by ASSOPI. Also once the journal is indexed, half of the amount received as publication charge has to be given to Publisher (Medknow Publications). He also informed that as per the discussion in EB meeting held on 11th September, OB and EB members felt that this will not be feasible for ASSOPI, and they decided that a new journal should be published by ASSOPI. Dr. Pal informed the members that he and Dr. Raj Kumar Yadav met in JIPMER in June this year for finalizing the details of the Journal including the title. It was proposed that the title is 'Journal of Physiology and Health Care Medicine'. This title was approved by the EB members and he requested GB to give their opinion and approval for the journal title. Then Dr. Raj Kumar Yadav, Editor-in Chief, ASSOPI informed that preliminary work for the journal publication were done and if the title is approved further procedures will be

completed and the first issue of the journal will be published in January, 2020. All the GB members approved the title of the journal. Dr. Raj Kumar informed the members that initially communications and submissions will be done through e-mails till the structured website is formed. Dr. Pal informed that initially three issues per year (January-April, May-August, September-December) will be released and later depending on the number and quality of articles submitted, the frequency of publication may be increased. He also informed Dr. Raj Kumar to open a bank account for the income and expenses of Journal to be managed. Dr. Raj Kumar requested all the members to send their papers for the journal to be started in January, 2020.

Following timeline for journal publication was recommended by GB:

1. Constitution of Editorial Board, Advisory Board, Guideline for authors, opening of passbook in a nationalized bank and other formalities such as obtaining ISSN number etc.: On or before 30th November.
2. Launching of journal website: On or before 30th December, 2019.
3. Circular to all members announcing the launching of ASSOPI Journal with a request to contribute to the first and subsequent issues: On or before 31st December, 2019.
4. Review and finalization of manuscripts for 1st Issue: On or before 29th February, 2020.
5. Online publication (in website) of 1st issue: On or before 15th March, 2020
6. Print of 1st issue (only 1st issue will be printed, not subsequent issues) and its circulation to all medical colleges: On or before 15th April, 2020.
7. Subsequent issues will be published by the end of first month of the quarter.

8. Finalization of venue for next annual conference of ASSOPI and proposal for Subsequent conferences.

General Secretary informed that though in last year GB, AIIMS Bhubaneswar had proposed to organize the ASSOPICON 2020, but they will not be able to conduct it, as the conference of Association of Physiologist of Orissa, will be organized by AIIMS, Bhubaneswar next year. Dr. Pal informed that he and Dr. B. Shankaranarayana Rao, Vice-President of South Zone, ASSOPI had an earlier discussion about the conduct the

next annual conference (ASSOPICON, 2020) at NIMHANS, Bangalore. Even though he couldnot attend the meeting, Dr. Bindu Kutty, Professor of NIMHANS and Executive Body Member of ASSOPI attended the EB meeting and she informed the members that they had an earlier discussion with their HoD and they are willing to conduct next ASSOPICON at NIMHANS, Bangalore. Dr. Kaviraj Udappa, Additional Professor of Neurophysiology, NIMHANS, informed that 7th ASSOPICON, 2020, will be organized by Dept. of Neurophysiology, NIMHANS, Bengaluru, under the guidance of Prof. B. ShankaranarayanaRao. He made a presentation for 5 minutes from their side about facilities available in their institute and briefly explained the concept of the conference and topics to be discussed. He cordially invited all to attend the ASSOPICON 2020.

The proposals were submitted to organize ASSOPICON in the subsequent years at AIIMS, Nagpur (for 2021), AIIMS, Raipur (for 2022), AIIMS, Bhubaneswar (for 2023), respectively.

9. Proposal of new ASSOPI awards

No applications were received for new awards

10. Election of new EB and OB members

General Secretary informed that due to the demise of Dr. S. N. Sharma, the Vice-President of East Zone post is vacant and he had notified for filling the post in the last ASSOPI news bulletin to invite the nominations for this post. But, till date no nominations have been received. Hence, it was decided in EB not to fill the post till the next election of OB-EB members, which is going to be held next year. The same was approved by GB.

11. Presentation of a brief report by Organizing Secretary/Chairman of ASSOPICON-2019

Dr. L. Rajeshwari, Organizing Secretary of ASSOPICON-2019 gave a brief account of how the conference is being organized. Also Dr. R. Rajalakshmi, Organizing Chairman of the Conference attended the meeting and she informed the members that the conference will be attended by many renowned physiologists, physicians, scientists

from across the country and from abroad. She informed that four workshops were conducted very successfully today. The special events in the conference will be the key note address, symposia, plenary lectures, PG paper presentations and poster presentations covering a wide variety of topics. GB members appreciated the effort of Dr. Rajalakshmi, Dr. Rajeshwari and their team for making the ASSOPICON 2019 a grand success.

12. Any other information:

i) Scientific Advisors for Conference:

As per the discussion in EB it was suggested that a committee constituting three members will be formed and they will be helping in suggesting the organizing committee of the conference. GB approved the recommendation of EB and suggested the following committee for the purpose.

1. Prof. Bindu M. Kutty, : Chairman
Professor, Dept. of Neurophysiology,
NIMHANS, Bangalore
2. Prof. S. B. Deshpande, : Member
Professor & Head, Dept. of Physiology,
Apollo Institute of Medical Sciences, Chittoor, AP
3. Prof. Ramanjan Sinha : Member
Professor and Head
Dept. of Physiology, AIIMS, Raipur
4. General Secretary of ASSOPI : Member Secretary

ii) Founder President as Ex-Officio Member:

It was proposed that as Founder President, Dr. S. B. Deshpande had immense contribution for the formation and establishment of ASSOPI and he should continue in ASSOPI as an Ex-Officio Member. GB agreed to this proposal and Dr. Deshpande accepted this proposal with humility.

iii) Proposal for change in time of EB meeting:

There was a proposal from some of the EB member to conduct the EB meeting in the morning of first day conference before inauguration. However, members of

GB opined that EB should be conducted as per the Bye-law in the evening of day before conference in order to facilitate the preparation for the conference and provide moral support to the organizers of the conference. Thus, proposal to conduct EBM on 1st day of conference was not accepted by the GB.

13. Vote of thanks

Meeting of GB ended at 8.30 PM with vote of thanks proposed by office secretary of ASSOPI.