

Minutes of 79th Annual General Body Meeting of ASI held on 20.12.2019 at ASICON 2019, Bhubaneswar

The 79th Annual General Body Meeting of the Association of Surgeons of India was held at 6pm on 20th December 2019 during ASICON 2019 at Bhubaneswar in Hall A at the ASICON venue at SOA University, Bhubaneswar.

1. Surgeon's Prayer

The 79th Annual General Body Meeting of the Association of Surgeons of India was called to order by President, Dr. Arvind Kumar at 6pm on 20th December 2019. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain, the Honorary Secretary collared the President, and recited the surgeons' prayer.

2. Welcome Address – President, Dr Arvind Kumar

President Dr. Arvind Kumar welcomed all the members of ASI, from across the country, for attending the 79th AGBM.

Dr. Arvind Kumar, thanked all the members for electing and having given him the chance to serve the association. He expressed thanks to all especially his core team including Dr. P. Raghu Ram, Vice President, Honorary Secretary Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain, Honorary Treasurer Dr. C R K Prasad, Director of Academics – Dr. Santhosh John Abraham, Director of Social Welfare Council – Dr. Shiva K. Misra, Secretary – Head Quarters Dr. P V Ramana Murthy and Secretary -website Dr. H V Shivaram for all their cooperation.

3. Condolence Resolutions

Honorary Secretary Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain read out the names of members who had left for heavenly abode and the house observed a minute of prayer in silence in memory of the departed souls. Honorary Secretary was entrusted to send condolence messages to the bereaved family.

4. Report for the year 2019 – Honorary Secretary, Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain

Honorary Secretary Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain presented the Honorary Secretary's report and it was printed in the Annual report book and the same was presented during the Inaugural Function. The report was approved unanimously.

5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the General Body Meeting held on 29th December 2018 at Chennai.

Honorary Secretary Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain informed that the minutes were put up at the website, circulated to all members and were included in the Annual Report Book 2019.

Dr. Vijay Kumar, from Bihar raised the issue of holding live operative workshops at ASICON and various other conferences, the matter was discussed extensively. While some members expressed the sentiment that live operative workshops are an important tool for teaching/learning and one of the key attractions for the delegates to attend ASI's conferences, many other members pointed out that there should not be any compromise to the patient safety. Some members pointed out that sometimes, the patient safety issues may not be completely adhered to, due to various reasons.

After extensive discussion on various options, the house resolved with majority that "ASI at its conferences at Every level (**National, State Chapters, Others where ASI logo is used**) shall NOT have live workshops in the present format. Instead, there will be Virtual Live operative videos ie unedited/minimally edited videos presented by experts with running commentary, instead of Live workshop. However, Live telecast of surgery may be done directly from centres of excellence by Surgeons of repute working in their own hospital / O.T. ,operating on their own patients with their regular OT staff and after taking due written informed consent from the patient party for such live telecast of their operation.

President Dr Arvind Kumar formed a 5 member committee under the Chairmanship of Vice President **Dr. P. Raghu Ram with Dr. B. S. Pathhania, Dr. Subhash Khanna, Dr. Adarsh Chaudhary and Dr. Sandeep Kumar as members** to lay down the guidelines for holding such live operative workshops, as approved above.

President asked for the concurrence of the house to pass the minutes. It was passed by the GB as proposed by Dr. S. K. Misra and seconded by Dr. Adarsh Chaudhary.

6. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on 30th December 2018 at Chennai, 30th & 31st March 2019 at Chennai, 12th September 2019 at New Delhi and the EC Meeting held on 18th December 2019 at Bhubaneswar.

Honorary Secretary Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain informed the GB that all but the last EC meeting on 18/12/2019 had been printed in the Annual report book and requested that it may be considered as read. He also read the salient decisions taken at the EC meeting held on 18th Dec.2019.

Dr. Ganguly raised his queries regarding ASI Professional indemnity scheme. Dr. S. K. Misra informed that the agency Secure Now is offering the scheme with many benefits and discounts to ASI members however the scheme is purely optional and not mandatory.

Dr. Yashpal Rawat and Dr. J. P. Sharma asked for sanction of separate Uttarakhand Chapter, President explained that it will be done as and when the required criteria are fulfilled. Dr. S. Soppimath pointed out that as mentioned in point no 7 in the minutes of 30th December 2018, there is no recommendation from MCI regarding Live operative workshops, President instructed to delete the objected sentence from the minutes.

Few members from the Assam wanted to raise the point of change of Venue of Guwahati, and President Dr. Arvind Kumar reminded that it is separate point of the agenda so it will be discussed there.

The house unanimously approved it as proposed by Dr. Sandeep Kumar and seconded by Dr. Hemant Chopra.

7. Matters arising out of the minutes.

All the issues had been discussed so no point was there to discuss.

8. Presentation of Audited Accounts Statement of ASI for 2018-19 and IJS for 2018 by Dr. C R K Prasad, Honorary Treasurer.

Honorary Treasurer Dr. C R K Prasad apprised the house that the audited account, unaudited accounts and the budget for 2019 are printed in the Annual Report book. He briefly narrated about the salient features. The GB passed the accounts unanimously, proposed by Dr. Sanjay De Bakshi and seconded by Dr. Pawanindra Lal.

9. Report on Regional Refresher Courses- President Dr. Arvind Kumar

President Dr. Arvind Kumar apprised the house that in the year 2019 six regional Refresher courses were conducted at different parts of the country with a good attendance. He informed that with the grand success this is now becoming the flagship program of the ASI. He congratulated all the winners and organizers, and praised the untiring efforts of Dr. Santhosh John Abraham and the Faculty who made it a grand success.

10. Matters related to IJS – President Dr. Arvind Kumar

President Dr. Arvind Kumar mentioned that by the decision of the Editorial committee of IJS and with approval of last GB, the journal is available online to the members. For those who are desirous of the print version, an annual subscription of Rs. 600/- will have to be remitted.

Dr. Sandeep Kumar informed that the articles received till June 2019 have been processed and the processing time has reduced.

11. Announcement of Various Orators, Hon. Fellowships and Symposium for the Year 2020.

1. Col.Pandalai Oration 2020 - Dr. Sandeep Guleria, New Delhi
2. Presidential Oration 2020 - Dr. P. Raghu Ram, Hyderabad
3. Dr.P.K.Sen Memorial Oration 2020 - Dr. S P Somashekhar, Bangalore
4. Dr.Das Mohapatra Oration 2020 – TBA
5. Dr.Ramesh Nigam Memorial Oration 2020 - Dr. Kumkum Singh, Ajmer
6. Dr.Jaipal Singh Memorial Oration 2020 - Dr. G S Moirangthem, Imphal
7. Brig (Dr) RasamayGanguly Memorial Oration 2020 - Dr. Pradeep Garg, Rohtak
8. Prof.Krishnamoorthy Golden Independence Conference Commemorative Oration 2020 - Dr. K Lakshman, Bangalore
9. Prof.B.N.Balakrishna Rao Oration 2020 - Dr. Shiva K. Misra, Kanpur

10. Dr. Shrish K Bhansali Memorial Oration 2020 - Dr. N Bheerappa, Hyderabad
11. Dr. Panchanan Chatterjee Endowment Lecture 2020 – TBA
12. Dr. A.K. Sen Sarma Memorial Endowment Lecture 2020 - Dr. Subodh Varshney, Bhopal
13. Padmashri Dr. K.N. Udupa Endowment Lecture 2020 - Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Gupta, Varanasi
14. Dr. Santok Singh Anand Endowment Lecture 2020 - Dr. Ramanuj Mukherjee, Kolkata
15. Visiting Professorship of ASI in General Surgery 2020 – TBA
16. ASI Travelling Fellowships 2020 – Dr. Sangamesh, Karnataka
17. Betadine Life Time Achievement Award 2020 - Dr. P. Raghu Ram, Hyderabad
18. Betadine young surgeon award 2020 - Dr. Sendhil Rajan, Bangalore
19. General Surgery Symposium - Dr. Madhu Muralee, Trivandrum
20. ASI Sectional Symposium by Rotation - ACRSI
21. Honorary Fellowships –
 - Prof. Anthony Sparnon, President, The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
 - Prof. Iain Anderson, President, The Association of Surgeons of Great Britain & Ireland
 - Prof. Jose Antonio Salud, President, Philippine College of Surgeons
 - Prof. Takao Ohki, Chairman, Jikei University, Tokyo
 - Prof. Jayindra Fernando, President, College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka

12. Report on ASICON-2018 - Audited Report & matters relating

President Dr. Arvind Kumar informed the house, that on presentation of unaudited accounts of ASICON 2018 in the EC meeting at Chennai, EC had formed an audit committee to enquire about the financial matters of ASICON 2018. The committee conducted an in camera enquiry with the organizing committee and submitted its report to the EC at Delhi. The final audited accounts submitted by the ASICON 2018 committee was scrutinized by the ASI auditors and a number of flaws were highlighted, such as - cash payments beyond permissible limits, and not fulfilling the taxation liabilities as per the government regulations. Based on these observations, the ASI EC has recommended to issue a letter of explanation to Dr. Vinayak Senthil, Organising Secretary ASICON 2018. Aggrieved by this Dr. K. Vinayak Senthil tried to interrupt in between to explain his views. At this point. the President stopped him and mentioned to Dr Vinayak Senthil that he would need to respond point by point to the “letter of explanation” that would be sent to him from ASI Office in due course of time.

Matters related to ASICON 2015 Accounts – Dr. C R K Prasad, Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Treasurer Dr. C R K Prasad informed the house that the payment of Rs. 29,22,670/- has been transferred to ASI account and the account of ASICON 2015 have been closed. President Dr. Arvind Kumar appraised the house about singular efforts of Past President Dr. Shiva K. Misra to get this long pending financial entanglement sorted out in the best interest of the association, which was applauded by the house unanimously.

13. ASICON 2020 – Venue

President Dr. Arvind Kumar informed the house that after being approved in the GBM at Chennai a venue inspection committee has visited the Guwahati and verified the infrastructure and other facilities at Guwahati. President elaborated the observations of the committee which expresses serious concerns that the city of Guwahati does not have facilities to host the present day ASICONS. Various members including Dr. Manoj Choudhary, Dr. Sarbeswar Bora, Dr. Gunnabhi Das, Dr. Deborshee Sharma, Dr. Subhash Khanna, Dr. Siddharth and Dr. R. B. Singh participated in the discussion. Dr. S. K. Misra expressed that ASICONS are mega events and the decision to hold it should not be made only on emotional grounds. Dr. Santhosh John Abraham expressed that there should be fixed venues with adequate infrastructure and good connectivity in years to come as the membership of ASI and attendance in ASICONS have been progressively increasing every year. President Dr. Arvind Kumar summarized the issue and informed the house that the report of venue inspection committee was placed before the Executive committee and after discussion and hearing from Dr. Manoj Choudhary well, the Executive committee decided unanimously to put before the GB its view for final decision that the ASICON 2020 venue be changed. President Dr. Arvind Kumar asked for mandate of the house on decision of EC for change of venue of ASICON 2020 from Guwahati. The house ratified the decision of EC with majority of votes. Further The President informed the house that the EC also directed to get fresh proposals for hosting ASICON 2020 in a time period of 10 days and to put it before GB for final approval. Subsequent to that AP state chapter expressed their willingness to host ASICON 2020 at Vishakhapatnam, following which a committee visited the Vishakhapatnam and found it suitable to host ASICON in present circumstances. The president sought the confirmation of the venue for ASICON 2020 at Vishakhapatnam, and the house approved it. The Organising Secretary Dr. P. V. Ramanamurty thanked the house for showing their confidence and invited the members to come to attend ASICON 2020.

14. ASICON 2021 – Venue

Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain Honorary Secretary informed the General Body that four nominations had been received by the Head Quarters- one from Delhi Chapter for New Delhi, Maharashtra Chapter, for Mumbai, Uttar Pradesh Chapter for Varanasi and Punjab Chapter for LPU Campus, Jalandhar Districts. Punjab Chapter had withdrawn and rest of the organizing teams made their presentations to confirm their respective bids for ASICON 2021. The house decided the issue in favour of Mumbai by show of hands. Dr. Arvind Kumar confirmed that ASICON 2021 will be held at Mumbai.

15. Legal Matters – Dr. Shiva K. Misra

Dr. Shiva K. Misra informed that only few insignificant cases were pending against ASI at Chennai High Court and City Civil Court apart from a case against Dr. R. K. Karwasara at Rohtak district court.

16. Presentation of Election Result for the post of Vice President 2020 (President 2021) by Dr. P. Raghu Ram, Chief Election Officer & Vice President.

Dr. P. Raghu Ram Chief Election Officer highlighted the fact that some 2000 unregistered members who have never ever participated in e-voting have been included in e-registered members list this year and were made eligible to participate in the e-voting. He expressed his gratitude to the two election officers Dr. Ashok Godhi and Dr. Pankaj Modi for their help in conducting the election. He then declared the election result and announced that Dr. Abhay Dalvi has been elected for the post of Vice President ASI 2020 (President ASI 2021). The General Body ratified the election result.

17. Constitution Amendments if any.

No amendment was proposed.

18. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

Dr. P. Raghu Ram suggested that there must be certain criteria followed before allocating ASICON venues in the future. He requested the President to form a Committee to look into this issue in great detail. Dr Arvind Kumar appointed Dr. Raghu Ram, the incoming President ASI to form a Committee and submit the Guidelines for bidding for ASICON. Dr Raghu Ram thanked the President and mentioned that a Committee would be formed and the report would be tabled for discussion at the National Executive Committee meetings to be held in 2020 and at the ASICON 2020 GBM.

Dr. Sanjay Jain sought the approval for formation of Ghaziabad City Branch under the UP-State Chapter and the House unanimously approved it.

19. Induction of the President for the Year 2020 and Speech by the incoming President

Dr. P. Raghu Ram, Hyderabad.

President Dr. Arvind Kumar inducted Dr. P. Raghu Ram, Hyderabad as President of ASI for 2020 and wished him a successful tenure. The Presidential collar was exchanged. Dr. P. Raghu Ram addressed the House expressing his heartfelt gratitude to the membership for electing him with an unprecedented mandate to the highest Office of the Association. He promised to ensure creative leadership and accountable governance.

20. Vote of thanks by the Honorary Treasurer ASI Dr. C R K Prasad.

Honorary Treasurer ASI Dr. C R K Prasad proposed the Vote of thanks.



Dr. Arvind Kumar
President ASI



Dr. Sanjay Kumar Jain
Honorary Secretary ASI