

NPL FORMER SCIENTISTS FORUM

Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the Management Committee of the NPL Former Scientists Forum, held on Tuesday, January 18, 2005 at 11.00 A.M. in the NPL Projection Room.

[Note: Follow-up Action is also reported along-side the decision]

1. Attendance: The following attended the meeting:

1. Dr. V N Bindal	President
2. Dr. O P Bahl	Vice President
3. Dr. V S Panwar	Joint Secretary
4. Shri V P Wasan	Treasurer
5. Dr. J K N Sharma	Member
6. Dr. A P Jain	Member
7. Dr. Sharwan Kumar	Member
8. Dr. (Mrs.) Namita Kundu	Member
9. Dr. P C Jain	Member
10. Dr. S K Sharma	Member
11. Shri K N Bhatnagar	Member
12. Mrs. Shashikala Shastri	Member
13. Shri G K Arora	Secretary

2. Welcome and Introductory Remarks by the President: Dr. Bindal welcomed the members to the meeting, and observed that while most of the members were present, we did not have the benefit of participation by 6 members, three of whom were present at the last meeting. So far we had not benefited from the participation of Dr. S V Gupta, who had been abroad after the reconstitution of the Management Committee, Dr. S P Varma, who had not been keeping well and Dr. S P Singal, on account of his other engagements. He expressed the hope that the attendance at the future meetings will be even better.

Dr. Bindal informed that indications were that in the near future, the Forum could hope to be provided with a place in the NPL premises for the use of its members as also some other facilities. He suggested that it was high time that we thought of undertaking some scientific activities also, which may be of relevance to NPL as well. He briefly mentioned about his talk with Dr. Krishan Lal in this regard, and said that there was a distinct possibility of raising substantial funds to support other activities of the Forum as well. This suggestion evoked very encouraging response and it was felt that while some of the members may not be able to make any substantial contributions in this regard, there would be a number of others who had the capacity, and willingness to make some useful contributions, and also thereby be able to utilize their post-retirement period in a more constructive manner.

After a detailed discussion it was decided that a 'Survey' may be conducted to collect information about the areas in which the members of the Forum would like to make their contributions, and also the effort that they were able to put in, so that a decision could be taken on this issue. It was decided that suggestions in this regard would be sent by the members of the Committee to the Secretary as early as possible, so that further action in this regard could be taken. Dr. Sharwan Kumar and Dr. (Mrs.) Namita Kundu, also offered to send some suggestions in regard to the type of projects that could be taken up by the Forum.

Members of the Committee were approached by the Secretary for their suggestions for the drafting of the 'Survey' Form. A Form has been drafted by Dr. V N Bindal, and the same shall be placed before the Committee at its next meeting. Dr. Sharwan Kumar has prepared an outline proposal on "Development of Skill and Competence in CSIR for Consultancy Work Related to System Management in Industries and Service Organizations". Dr. Kundu has also prepared an outline of a "Project Proposal for Initiation of School Children through Interactive Experiments". These will also be presented at the next meeting of the Committee. In addition, stock has been taken of the books published by some of the members of the Forum after their retirement, which is proposed to be published in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Dr. J K N Sharma said that it would also be now desirable to get the Forum registered with the Registrar of Societies for giving a practical shape to the proposal, as then only it may be possible to get grants/ donations etc. In this regard it was felt that a decision in this regard would need to be taken by the General Body of the Forum, and if approved, the 'Constitution Committee', which had formulated the "Rules and Regulations" could be re-energized/ reconstituted.

Dr. Bindal added that at present there was no provision of associating any well wishers of the Forum who have crossed the minimum age limit of 60 years but had not been associated with NPL, or else who had been/are associated with the Laboratory but have not yet attained the age of 60 years. While the members of the Committee were generally in favour of

making a provision in the “Rules and Regulations” in this regard, it was felt that it was again an issue, which fell in the court of the General Body to deliberate upon, and to suggest suitable nomenclature for association of such persons with the Forum.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 12th Meeting of the Management Committee held on August 27, 2004 and follow-up action on the decisions taken at that meeting: The minutes of the meeting (Annexure I) had not been circulated to the members. However, the salient features of it, and the action on the various decisions taken at that meeting were presented by the Secretary at the time of the meeting. The Minutes were adopted as confirmed and the action taken was noted.

4. Status Report by the Secretary: A copy of the Report, as also of the enclosures thereto, which had been circulated at the time of the meeting, is given at Annexure II. The highlights of it were presented by the Secretary at the time of the meeting.

5. Approval to the Induction of New Members of the Forum: The induction of the following as New Members of the Forum was approved:

Sr. No	Name and Date of Birth	Membership Status	Remarks
1	Shri Sham Lal Sharma [27. 08. 2004]	Member [126]	No dues for 2005
2	Shri Gurdial Singh Bhamra [27. 08. 2004]	Member [127]	Membership Renewal due for 2005
3	Shri M I Alam [19. 11. 2004]	Member [128]	Membership Renewal due for 2005
4	Shri Bir Bal Chopra [19. 11. 2004]	LIFE Member [129]	
5	Shri Sohan Lal Gupta [19. 11. 2004]	LIFE Member [130]	
6	Mrs. Veena Roonwal [19. 11. 2004]	Member [131]	Membership Renewal due for 2005
7	Shri Surinder Singh [19. 11. 2004]	LIFE Member [132]	
8	Dr. Ved Singh [19. 11. 2004]	LIFE Member [133]	
9	Shri Mihir Kumar Chaudhuri [19. 11. 2004]	LIFE Member [134]	

The Committee felt that in order to avoid the burden of keeping track of yearly renewal of membership vis-à-vis the year of enrolment as a member, all new members other than Senior Members may be enrolled only as Life Members, and also to encourage the existing members to become Life Members by paying the balance contribution due from them.

6. Status Report by the Treasurer: Shri Wasan informed that the following was the financial status of the Forum as on 3. 1. 2005:

In Bank	Rs. 35,143.81
Cash in Hand	Rs. 3, 153.00
Expenditure	Rs. 4, 482.50

7. Proposal for Opening Fixed Deposit Account with the Syndicate Bank, National Physical Laboratory: The Committee decided in favour of opening of two Fixed Deposit Accounts for Rs. 15, 000/- and Rs. 10, 000/- for three years each, so that, if it became necessary, one of the two could be dissolved.

Fixed deposit accounts, as advised by the Committee, were opened on the 18th January itself, soon after the meeting.

8. Collection of Membership Subscription Arrears for 2004, and Renewal of Membership for 2005: Various Coordinators were requested to ensure the clearance of arrears towards membership contribution and to renew the membership for the current year 2004. While doing so, they may also encourage the members to become life members by paying the balance contribution due from them.

Every Coordinator was furnished information about the members from whom the membership subscriptions were due and the amount payable by them for renewing their membership for the year 2005 or for becoming Life Member by paying the balance amount of contribution due from them. Their attention was also drawn to the other prospective members figuring in their lists for interaction, who had yet to enroll themselves as members of the Forum.

9. Suggestions for holding a Picnic/ Family Get-together: It was decided that the Programme Committee may deliberate on this issue and draw up a suitable programme.

10. Agenda, Date, Time and Venue for the next meeting of the Forum and Release of the Second Number of the Forum’s Newsletter: It was decided that Director, NPL may be approached for an advertisement for Rs. 10,000/- for the Newsletter, and if the same was received, and the TEC conference Room was also ready, the next meeting of the Forum could be fixed for some time in the beginning of March 2005. However, another meeting of the Management Committee will need to be held to approve the draft of the Newsletter.

Director NPL has been approached by the Secretary, for giving a Full-page Advertisement to appear on the Back Cover Page of the Newsletter. The release of the amount of Rs. 10,000/- is awaited. It is also learnt that the TEC Conference Room has also been converted into a Lecture Hall and it now has a seating capacity of about 90 persons.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.