

NPL FORMER SCIENTISTS FORUM

Minutes of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Management Committee of the NPL Former Scientists Forum, held on Wednesday, April 6, 2005 at 11.00 A.M. in the NPL Conference Room.

[Note: Follow-up Action is also reported along side the decision in a smaller typeface]

1. Attendance: The following attended the meeting:

1. Dr. V N Bindal	President
2. Dr. V S Panwar	Joint Secretary
3. Shri V P Wasan	Treasurer
4. Dr. S V Gupta	Member
5. Dr. P C Jain	Member
6. Dr. (Mrs.) Namita Kundu	Member
7. Dr. J K N Sharma	Member
8. Dr. S K Sharma	Member
9. Mrs. Shashi Kala Shastri	Member
10. Dr. S P Singal	Member
11. Shri G K Arora	Secretary

Dr. O P Bahl, Dr. Sharwan Kumar and Shri R C Dhawan had expressed their inability to attend the meeting. Shri K N Bhatnagar, Dr. A P Jain, Shri F C Khullar, Dr. B N Srivastava and Dr. S P Varma were absent.

2. Welcome and Introductory Remarks by the President: Dr. Bindal welcomed the members to the meeting. He was happy that Dr. S V Gupta and Dr. S P Singal who had not been able to attend the earlier meetings of the Committee were present at this meeting. He expressed the hope that the attendance at the next meeting will be complete.

Dr. Bindal said that while the Management Committee took decisions on various issues, it was the four Area Committees viz. (1) the Medical Facilities Committee [Chairman – Dr. O P Bahl], (2) the Programme Committee [Chairman – Dr. S K Sharma], (3) the Publication Committee [Chairman – Dr. P C Jain] and (4) the Financial Benefits Committee [Chairman – Dr. J K N Sharma], which constituted the back bone of the Forum. The Chairmen of these Committees had the freedom to add any members to their Committees or take help from any members of the Forum for special issues.

As Shri S Parthasarathy had left Delhi and his contact particulars are not yet known and Shri B S Gaira has expressed his inability to be associated with the Medical Facilities Committee, they cease to be members of this Committee. Shri Mohinder Nath was approached to be associated with this Committee as a Member, to which he has agreed.

In so far as the Publication Committee is concerned, it had met earlier during the day to finalize the draft for the next issue of the Newsletter. Dr. Bahl and he himself had been invited to participate in that meeting.

In particular Dr. Bindal mentioned about the 'Survey Form', which had been given to the members along with the Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the Management Committee held on January 18, 2005. He said that those members who were unable to participate in the various scientific activities outlined in the 'Survey Form' do not have to feel small in any way, as the Committee was aware of the various limitations that they may be having on account of the other post-retirement responsibilities that they had to discharge. He specifically invited attention to the activities marked with an asterisk sign (*) in the Survey Form. Such activities could be supported financially by the Department of Science & Technology (DST) and other organizations, provided the project proposals are referred to them through the NPL Former Scientists Forum. For this, as had been suggested by Dr. J K N Sharma, it would now be desirable to get the Forum registered with the Registrar of Societies.

'Survey Form' has been mailed to all the Members of the Forum by courier along with the notice for the Ninth Meeting of the Forum on May 2, 2005 at 10.00 AM and the Second Annual General Body Meeting at 10.00 Noon on the same day.

Dr. Bindal also mentioned about his discussions with Dr. Krishan Lal in regard to the projects that could be taken up with financial support from the DST, which has a scheme of providing financial support for two years. This includes emoluments to the investigator to bridge the gap in the salary that the investigator was getting before retirement and his pension, a project assistant, and some other perks. A part of the financial support provided for such projects goes to the agency through which the proposal has been forwarded. While helping the individual, this could be a good source of generating revenue for the Forum as well.

Details of the DST's Scheme for 'Utilization of Scientific Expertise of Retired Scientists' have been procured. In addition information regarding a CSIR Scheme of Registration of Societies formed by the working staff members of the various CSIR establishments has also been collected to explore the possibility of registration of NPL Former Scientists Forum under that or some other scheme.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the Management Committee held on January, 6, 2005 and follow-up action on the decisions taken at that meeting: The minutes of the meeting (**Annexure I**) were circulated to the members. This included the "Survey Form" and copies of the two project proposals on "Development of Skill and Competence for Consultancy Work related to System Management in Industries and Service Organizations" by Dr. Sharwan Kumar, and (2) "Initiation of School Children through Interactive Experiments" by Dr. Mrs. Namita Kundu.

The follow-up action on the various decisions taken at that meeting was also indicated at the appropriate places in these minutes.

The Committee confirmed the Minutes of the meeting and also noted the follow-up action that had been taken.

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**. This included the List of 45 Members whose renewal of Membership of the Forum for the year 2005 (including the 20 members who had also to pay the arrears for the year 2004). This list gave information about the amount of contribution due for renewal of Membership for the year 2005 as also the amount due from them for becoming Life Members. Names of the Member of the Management Committee interacting with them were also indicated so that they could be encouraged by them to become life Members as per the feeling that had been expressed by the members of the Management Committee at the last meeting.

The Committee was presented the highlights of the Report.

5. Approval to the Induction of New Members of the Forum: The Committee was informed that subsequent to the issue of the Notice for the meeting a Membership Form had also been received from Shri Jagdish Prashad Sharma. Induction of the following as New Members of the Forum was approved:

Sr. No	Name and Date of Birth	Membership Status	Remarks
1	Dr. Surinder Mohan Dhawan [15. 01. 1945]	Life Member [135]	
2	Dr. Raghavachari Venkatachari [06. 06. 1936]	Life Member [136]	
3	Dr. Tribhuvan Kumar Saksena [01. 11. 1935]	Member [137]	New Addition to the Membership List
4	Dr. Suhas Chandra Majumdar [19. 01. 1937]	Life Member [138]	
5	Dr. Suresh Chand Jain [05. 12. 1926]	Senior Member [139]	
6	Shri Mrityunjay Karfa [02. 01. 1945]	Life Member [140]	
7	Shri Bajj Nath Upadhyaya [01. 10. 1919]	Senior Member [141]	
8	Dr. Ram Swarup [14. 03. 1945]	Life Member [142]	
9	Shri Jagdish Prashad Sharma [16. 06. 39]	Life Member [143]	

6. Status Report by the Treasurer: The Committee noted the following financial status as on 31. 03. 2005, presented by Shri V P Wasan: -

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>		<u>Balance Sheet</u>	
By Subscription	Rs. 12,530	Excess of Income	Rs. 7,183.42	Assets as FD in Syndicate Bank	Rs. 25,000.00
By Bank Interest	Rs. 1,026.42			In Bank	Rs. 11,716.81
				Cash in Hand	Rs. 2,019.50
	Rs. 13,556.42		Rs. 13,556.42		Rs. 38,776.31

The up to date status was not available as certain bills and Cheques had had yet to be received.

7. Appointment of Auditor for Auditing the Accounts for 2004-2005: It was decided to request Shri P K Mittal to Audit the Accounts for the year 2004-2005 as well, and in the event of his not being able to do so to approach Shri Jagdish Prashad Sharma for the same.

Shri P K Mittal was approached by the Secretary, and he willingly accepted the responsibility of auditing the Accounts of the Forum for 2004-2005. The Audited Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31. 03. 2005 was adopted at the Second Annual General Body Meeting held on May 2, 2005.

At the same meeting Shri P K Mittal was also appointed as the Auditor for the Financial Year 2005-2006.

8. Approval of the Draft for the Next Issue of the Newsletter: Dr. P C Jain presented the draft of the Newsletter as approved by the Publication Committee at its meeting which had preceded the meeting of the Management Committee. He said that the Committee had decided to publish it as a "Special Medical Issue". It was the result of the efforts put in by all the Members of the Publication Committee and the guidance provided by Dr. Bindal. However, it is the result of the efforts put in by Shri G K Arora in particular, that it has been possible to make this compilation. He has not only Compiled the bulk of the Material for this issue, but also edited the inputs provided by the other members to make them presentable. However, the Committee had not been able to take decision in respect of some of the material for which was being placed before the members for their views.

The Management Committee felt not in favour of Publication of the article on 'Role of Senior Citizens in 21st Century' as also his "autobiographical Sketch". However, it approved the inclusion of the write-up on 'Meditation as Medicine' prepared by Shri Arora. As for "Thoughts and Afterthoughts", it was decided that those which were relevant to Health, may be spread appropriately in the Section on "Office Memoranda and Circular Letters relating to Medical Issues". For the remaining material Shri Arora might use it for filling up empty spaces, keeping in view that what was published did not hurt the sentiments of any members. He was advised to use his discretion in the matter and finalize the material for publication of the Issue.

The Special Medical Issue of the Newsletter has been published, and it was released by Shri Sudhir Kumar at the Ninth Meeting of the Forum held on May 2, 2005 at which Dr. Vikram Kumar, Director, NPL, was the Chief Guest. Copies of the Newsletter were also collected by most of the Members of the Forum who attended the Second Annual General Body of the Forum which was held, following that meeting on the same day.

9. Reports by the Chairmen of the Various Committees:

9.1 Publication Committee: Dr. Jain said that he had already indicated the status. He invited suggestions from the Members for the Committee for its future action, as so far the only publication that was in view was the Newsletter. For this the Committee had met three times - first on November 17, 2004 after the meeting of the Forum held on that day, then on the 18th January 2005 preceding the Meeting of the Management Committee held on that day, and now on the day preceding today's meeting of the Management Committee. This helped in killing two birds with one stone, as the members of the Publication Committee were also Members of the Management Committee and some other Members of the Management Committee could also be involved. He invited inputs from the Members for the next issue of the Newsletter and added that if there is some other member of the Forum who would like to be associated with this Committee, he is welcome to do so.

Dr. Jain added that Rs. 2,000/- had been received from M/S Swastik Thermometer Company by way of an advertisement through the efforts of Shri V P Wasan. Another Rs 10,000/- had been committed by Director, NPL. Efforts had been made to secure other advertisements also, but with no success so far. He requested the other members for exploring the possibility of supporting the Committee financially in its future efforts also so that its activities are not only self-supporting but also result in contributing to the Forum's meager funds.

The amount of Rs. 10,000/- from NPL has subsequently been received. Further, the Secretary had also been able to get a financial commitment by way of an advertisement for Rs. 5,000/- from the CSIR, for which the claim has also been made by him through a pre-receipted bill submitted to the CSIR.

9.2 Programme Committee: Dr. S K Sharma informed that he had heard a very good talk by Dr. Dhameeja on 'Nutritional Supplements' – a topic that would be of interest and relevance to a number of the Members of the Forum. Accordingly he had sounded him for a similar talk at a meeting of our Forum as well to which he had agreed. The Committee endorsed the suggestion of Dr. Sharma and he was requested to explore the possibility of fixing up this lecture towards the end of April or in early May. The date for the next meeting of the Forum may be fixed accordingly.

Dr. Navneet Kumar Dhameeja gave a talk on "How to Live a Health Life, Preventing Life-Style Diseases", at the ninth meeting of the Forum held on May 2, 2005. Copies of a brief note prepared by him was also distributed to the members of the Forum attending that meeting.

9.3 Medical Facilities Committee: Since Dr. Bahl was unable to attend the meeting, Shri Arora presented the report of the Committee. He informed that Dr. Bahl had written to Dr. R A Mashelkar, DG, CSIR, highlighting some of the problems that the CSIR Pensioners were facing. In response to his reply, Dr. Bahl had, sent to him a brief note on 17. 03. 2005, highlighting three major issues viz. – (1) **Life Long CGHS Card**, (2) **Treatment at Recognized/ Designated Hospitals** and (3) **Reimbursement of Expenses**. The contents of the note were read out at the meeting.

Shri Arora also mentioned about his meeting with Shri Sudhir Kumar, Joint Secretary (Admn.), CSIR on April 11, 2005, at which he presented to him the problems faced by our Members. He had also submitted to him the 'A BRIEF' which gives the "Summary of some of the Existing Rules & Regulations of Medical Facilities" in respect of (i) *CGHS Cards, their Issue and Validity* (ii) *Treatment in Private Recognized Hospitals*, and (iii) *Settlement of Medical Claims*.

9.4 Financial Benefits Committee: Dr. J K N Sharma informed that he had fixed up a meeting of the Committee but there was no response from any of the members. In view of the present status of the decision on Death-cum-Retirement-Gratuity (DCRG) Issue in respect of Pre-1.1.196 Retirees, as contained in the two notes on (1) **Merger of Full DA for Gratuity : Pre 1.1/1996 Retirees – No Government Decision is yet available**, and (2) **Additional DCRG with Merger of DA – Matter now Pending with Supreme Court**, which Shri G K Arora had sent to him, the Committee had no action to report at present.

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 in addition to the talk by Dr. Dhameeja, the Annual General Body Meeting of the Forum may also be held on the same day at which time the copies of the Newsletter may be distributed. after its formal release. Shri Arora was requested to fix up the meeting in consultation with Dr S K Sharma and Dr. V N Bindal.

The 9th Meeting of the Forum and the Second Annual General Body meeting were held on 02. 05. 2005.

11. Finalization of the Survey Form for taking up of Scientific Activities by the Forum: The 'Survey Form was approved for circulation among the Members of the Forum. A report on the response received shall be placed before the Committee at its next meeting.

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