

## **NPL FORMER SCIENTISTS FORUM**

Minutes of the Fifty-sixth Meeting of the Management Committee held on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 11 A.M. [via Google meet\\_Link i.e. 'meet.google.com/rxm-ihbz-mbf'](https://meet.google.com/rxm-ihbz-mbf).

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Introductory Remarks by the President
2. To condole the sad demise of Dr. V.S. Panwar, Dr. R.K. Aggarwal and Sh. Dharam Singh Khattar, Dr. L.S. Tanwar and Dr. G.D. Sootha – FSF members and Sh. Bhupender Kumar s/o L. Dev Kumar ji & our ex-NPL colleagues Sh. S.N. Narula, Sh. V.G. Kulkarni, Sh. Ashwani Kumar Ranhotra and Sh. Vikram Semwal
3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 55<sup>th</sup> Management Committee Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2020. (Please see Annexure 1)
4. Status Report by the Secretary, Sh. R.B. Saxena
5. Financial Status to be presented by the Treasurer, Dr. Hari Kishan
6. Felicitation of Dr. Mahesh Chandra Gupta, Sh. Alok Kanji Lal, Dr. J.K. Gupta and Prof. Krishan Lal, as new members of the 80-Plus Fraternity.
7. Scholarship & Awards 2021 – Brief discussion
8. Discussions for organizing the 7<sup>th</sup> A.P. Mitra Memorial lecture
9. NPL-FSF website – Progress report brief by Website committee - Sh. N.K. Wadhwa & Dr. J.C. Sharma
10. To discuss for holding elections of the office bearers & MC members and appointment of Returning Officer
11. To discuss the publication of NPL-FSF Newsletter 16
12. Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

The following members joined the meeting on web meet:

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|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Prof. Krishan Lal            | Patron          |
| 2. Prof. Vikram Kumar           | Patron          |
| 3. Dr. V.N. Bindal              | Patron          |
| 4. Dr. R.G. Sharma              | President       |
| 5. Dr. J.C. Sharma              | Vice President  |
| 6. Dr. A. Sen Gupta             | Advisor         |
| 7. Sh. S.C. Garg                | Advisor         |
| 8. Sh. R.B. Saxena              | Secretary       |
| 9. Sh. N.K. Wadhwa              | Joint Secretary |
| 10. Dr. Hari Kishan             | Treasurer       |
| 11. Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta        | Member          |
| 12. Dr. P.C. Jain               | Member          |
| 13. Dr. B. R. Chakraborty       | Member          |
| 14. Dr. S.L. Jain               | Member          |
| 15. Dr. M. K. Goel              | Member          |
| 16. Dr. T.L. Dhami              | Member          |
| 17. Sh. T.V. Joshua             | Member          |
| 18. Sh. Akhilesh Chandra Gupta  | Member          |
| 19. Dr. Sukhvir Singh           | Member          |
| 20. Sh. V.D. Arora              | Member          |
| 21. Dr. V.R. Singh              | Member          |
| 22. Mrs. Shashi Lekha Bhatnagar | Member          |
| 23. Dr. J.K. Gupta              | Invitee         |

1. **Welcome and Introductory Remarks by the President:** The President Dr. R.G. Sharma welcomed the members and commented that due to this CORONA epidemic in last 3-4 months many of our members have unfortunately left for heavenly abode. The death of so many bright souls due to the Pandemic Covid in one month is terribly tragic. During the period since last MC meeting, the most important achievement has been the publication of the FSF Newsletter no. 15 and NPL having sent a consolidated draft to CGHS HQ for the renewal of CGHS cards of FSF members due in June 2020, December 2020 and June 2021. This saved the hassle of collecting and depositing the draft by individuals. We hope this facility will continue. We have tried to introduce some new features to our Newsletter. This time we started inviting our senior colleagues for writing their memoirs of the old era, which many of us did not witness. We also invited scientific articles from other colleagues. We will continue to publish such articles in future as well. We had the virtual “6<sup>th</sup> Dr. A P Mitra memorial lecture” on Sept. 16, 2020 (Ozone Day) which was very well organized by Dr. A Sen Gupta. Long pending demand of the FSF for the issue of pension slip to know the breakup of basic pension, DA, arrears and TDS has also been met for few months. We filed the ITR for the Assessment Year 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 and got the entire amount of TDS for the years refunded. Our medical Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Anil Gupta pursued hard with CSIR HQ and NPL Admin. and got cashless facilities for treatment at a few empanelled hospitals. I take this opportunity and thank all my colleagues in the Management Committee who had been supportive to all the initiatives that we took in the interest of the Forum. I thank all the members of the Publication Committee for their help and support. We were very lucky to get advice from our patrons and senior colleagues, Dr. V N Bindal and Late Shri G K Arora in particular, from time to time.  
After his welcome address, Dr. Sharma asked the Secretary to continue with the Agenda items.
2. The Secretary informed the members about the sad demise of our FSF members Dr. V.S. Panwar, Dr. R.K. Aggarwal and Sh. Dharam Singh Khattar, Dr. L.S. Tanwar and Dr. G.D. Sootha and Sh. Bhupender Kumar s/o L. Dev Kumar ji & our ex-NPL colleagues Sh. S.N. Narula, Sh. V.G. Kulkarni, Sh. Ashwani Kumar Ranhotra and Sh. Vikram Semwal. A two minute silence was observed by the members of the forum to mourn their passing away at their respective places. Condolence resolution was passed and the secretary was requested to send the resolutions to the bereaved families.  
*“It is resolved in the 56<sup>th</sup> Managing Committee of the Former Scientists Forum held on 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2021 that the members of NPL FSF feel deep sorrow on the sad demise of our colleagues. We all pray to the Almighty to give eternal peace to the departed holy souls. May God give strength to their family members to bear such an irreparable loss.”*
3. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the 55<sup>th</sup> Management Committee Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2020.** The minutes had been already circulated among the MC members by email. The Secretary informed that he has not received any comments from any member except from Late Sh. G.K. Arora ji, Patron, which were incorporated in the minutes. The minutes were then confirmed.
4. **Status Report by the Secretary:** The salient points of the **Status Report** displayed at the meeting, were briefly presented by Shri R B Saxena - the Secretary. **Attached Annexure 1**
5. **Financial Status:** Dr. Hari Kishan, Treasurer presented the financial tables. **Attached Annexure 2.** He informed that presently he is at Bhatinda and after reaching New Delhi his top priority will be Completion of Account Books and Audit Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Steps will be taken to have another FDR as there is no point to keep an amount more than 3 Lakhs in Saving Bank Account. Dr. Hari Kishan further informed that Sh. S.C. Garg, Advisor had informed about the INCURSI left over amount of Rs. 42987.50, which can be transferred to Forum. He further informed that this amount has been finally come to Forum. It has taken more than 15 months (September 2019 to 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021). Special thanks are due to Sh. S.C. Garg, Dr. R.S. Dabas, Dr. B.C. Arya & Dr. D.R. Nakra for providing help in this work. Of course thanks to the entire financial team

On a query about various FDs namely A P Mitra memorial funds & Scholarship & awards fund etc. the Treasurer stated that efforts will be taken to classify total FSF fund: scholarship & awards, Dr. A.P. Mitra memorial lecture, membership, Advertisement and donations. Presently rate of interest on our fixed deposits: 5.2-5.3%. FSF has three Saving Bank Accounts namely: 1. Main A/C no. 91002010025950, 2. Donation A/C no. 91002010029585 and 3. Premium A/C no. 91002140000046. It is proposed to close SB A/Cs 00046. It was decided that the Premier Account No. 91002140000046 will be closed after the maturity of FDR linked with this account.

6. **Felicitation** of Dr. Mahesh Chandra Gupta, Sh. Alok Kanji Lal, Dr. J.K. Gupta and Prof. Krishan Lal, as new members of the 80-Plus Fraternity. The Secretary read out the citation for them. The Secretary requested the members to say few words for felicitation of Prof. Lal and Dr. J.K. Gupta

**For Prof. Krishan Lal:** **Dr. R.G. Sharma** talked about his very long association & togetherness with Prof. Krishan Lal from the college days at Muzaffarnagar. Both of them joined NPL almost same time. He found Dr. Lal always respecting his Gurus. Dr. Lal had been very hardworking and cordial. Dr. Sharma shared further his reminiscences of Dr. Lal. **Dr. Bindal**, the founder President of the Forum spoke about the birth of the Forum, when Prof. Krishan Lal was the Director NPL. Prof. Lal was very supportive & a great source of encouragement and offered to allot a room in NPL for the Forum. Prof. Vikram Kumar, who took over from Dr. Krishan Lal as Director NPL, also deserves all praise for the growth of the Forum. He was kind enough to provide a room for the Forum's office. The keys of this cabin were handed over to Prof. Verma, by him, in a grand inauguration ceremony. I have always found Dr. Lal very humble and down to earth person. **Prof. Vikram Kumar** spoke about his long association with Prof. Lal from the time Prof. Kumar was Director, SSPL. He always found him very cordial, supportive and intuitive. **Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta** shared his experiences about his association and interaction with Prof. Lal, who have been very supportive. **Dr. J.C. Sharma** shared his interaction with Dr. Lal that how he used to take care of his fellow colleagues in every matter.

**Prof. Krishan Lal** spoke about his life's journey from college to present stage along with major incidents and R&D contributions including memories of his Gurus and Prof. A.R. Verma.

About FSF he suggested that steps should be taken for its elevation and efforts be made for funding by involving FSF members scientific caliber into various opportunities available in the country.

**For Dr. J.K. Gupta:** **Sh. S.C. Garg** spoke about Dr. J.K. Gupta. He told that Dr. Gupta was a team member of Scientists at NPL, who established that Troposphere can also be monitored by Radio Beacons and subsequently using Radio Beacon Transmission of the INTASAT Satellite. He has been a very hard working and dedicative person. **Dr. S.L. Jain** also shared his association with Dr. J.K. Gupta.

**Dr. J.K. Gupta** spoke about his journey in NPL and talked about his R&D and specially his work on Radio Beacon Transmission of the INTASAT Satellite. He conveyed his gratitude towards all his colleagues of NPL.

7. **Scholarship & Awards 2021:** This matter was discussed. The Secretary informed that Scholarship & Awards 2020 was deferred for next year due to COVID 19. Dr. Bindal remarked that it looks that lately we are only taking care of the medical issues like CGHS cards renewal etc. and not concentrating on other issues of main Aims & Objectives of the forum, like organizing scientific lectures or inviting scientists to share their expertise with members, Scholarship & awards for the children of NPL staff, Tree plantation and creating awareness against social drawbacks like superstitions etc. The Secretary stated that it is true that last year we could not execute the other objectives due to Covid. However we arranged sixth A.P. Mitra memorial lecture as a webinar, then on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019 at the Diwali Milan programme we had lecture by Dr. P. Asthana Head, INSPIRE Programme of DST who delivered a short invited talk on "Mega Science Projects and India". This year we will pursue Scholarship & awards (2021) for the children and also other matters.

8. **Medical issues:** Dr. Anil Gupta, Chairman Medical Affairs Committee updated that no further development has been there as such. Dr. Gupta appreciated the efforts of the Medical Affairs team. He informed about all the development regarding CGHS renewal and problems facing by CGHS Hq during this COVID makeshift arrangements.
9. **NPL-FSF website** –Mr. NK Wadhwa briefed about Forum website, its maintenance etc. All the FSF related news, orders and information are being updated on the site timely/promptly. With regard to the issue of maintenance renewal annually it was informed that Rs. 15000/- are to be paid to the Company per year. We have tried to meet this expense by getting donations, however for the renewal last September 2020, we have not received full amount as donations. But still we are trying to get from HRDC of CSIR, who had promised to donate Rs. 10000/- to the Forum. The Invoice had been sent. Sh. Wadhwa ji was requested to pursue the matter. This matter of expenses for renewal had been discussed in the GB meeting also in December 2020 and it was felt that if we are not getting adequate donations for these expenses, it may met from the Forum's funds. The members unanimously agreed that website should be continued even If we do not get donations; the expenses may be met from Forum. On a query by the president about average hits in our website, Sh. Wadhwa informed that about 500 hits per month we get.
10. **Discussions for organizing the 7<sup>th</sup> A.P. Mitra Memorial lecture:** Dr. A. Sengupta informed that the 7<sup>th</sup> A P Mitra Memorial lecture is being planned to hold on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021, the Ozone Day. Since this will be again as webinar, we can explore the possibility of inviting even from abroad to deliver this lecture. The speaker should be connected with Ionospheric research and had interacted with Late Dr. Mitra. He further informed that he has also talked to Dr. Mila Mitra D/o L. Dr. Mitra. Prof. Vikram Kumar suggested that we can invite some eminent scientist from URSI, may be any Noble Laureate. For organizing Dr. Sengupta stated that we shall again join with InRaSS (Indian Radio Science Society) like for 6<sup>th</sup> AP Mitra Memorial lecture for a successful execution.
11. **Holding elections of the office bearers & MC members:** The matter was discussed in detail. Few members were of the opinion that the present committee may continue for another year as due to Covid it is not easy to hold the election. But majority were in favour of election as per the memorandum. Dr. S.L Jain was appointed as the Returning Officer for the election. He may form a small committee of Secy., Joint Secy., Dr. Hari Kishan and Sh. V.D. Arora to assist him in the work
12. **NPL-FSF Newsletter 16:** The President, Dr. R.G. Sharma proposed that the Secretary, Sh. R.B. Saxena may please take the responsibility of the publication of the Newsletter 16 with the help of the Publication Committee. The target date must be December 2021. Mr. Saxena accepted to take the responsibility.

**Since there was no other item to be discussed, meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.**



## **Annexure 1**

### **Status Report for the 56<sup>th</sup> MC meeting:**

1. **ITR Returns:** *Income Tax Return (ITR) for FY 2019-2020 had been filed & a refund of Rs. 16930/- has been received, that was deducted as TDS.*
2. **Due to Pandemic Covid-19, Scholarships & Awards 2020 had not been possible.**

3. **Medical Affairs committee** under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kumar Gupta has done efforts for the CGHS related matters. Dr. Gupta has had meetings with the COA & COFA of CSIR-NPL and CSIR which had resulted in the renewal of CGHS cards for Dec 2020 by transferring a consolidated amount to CGHS Hqrs by NPL and the members got relief of not getting individual cheques and depositing them at CGHS.
4. **The Sixth A P Mitra Memorial Lecture** (2020) has been organized jointly by the NPL Former Scientists Forum (NPL-FSF), the Indian Radio Science Society (InRaSS) and CSIR-NPL as a Webinar during 11:00 – 12:30 IST on the world Ozone day, 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. Dr Anil Bhardwaj, Director, PRL, Ahmadabad, one of India's most eminent Atmospheric and Planetary scientists, delivered the lecture titled “**Indian Planetary Missions**” in a webinar.
5. **Newsletter 15:** With the efforts of the Publication Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.G. Sharma, the 15<sup>th</sup> Issue of Newsletter was published in December 2020. Out of 100 copies printed, more than 50 copies have been sent to members by Courier and by personal delivery/collection.
6. **Membership drive:** With the efforts of Dr. Hari Kishan, Sh. N.K. Wadhwa and late Sh. G.K. Arora, the forum has membership of 406 members.
7. **Renewal of CGHS cards of Forum members –December 2020:** For June 2021 already a list of beneficiaries of NPL-FSF had been provided to E-1 section and a transfer of consolidated amount for the first 288 members (including NPL retirees) has been done by NPL

## Annexure 2

### FINANCIAL POSITION OF FSF AS ON 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021

- I am presently in Punjab (Bathinda) since January 2021
- All the documents: day book, cheque book, vouchers, ledger and receipt book etc are in FSF office at NPL

- Following table displays Financial Status of FSF as on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021

S.no	Nature of A/c	Account No	Amount (Rs)	Remarks
1	Savings Bank (Main)	91002010025950	84,222=16	
2	Savings Bank (Donation)	91002010029585	08,258=86	Almost no transaction
3	SB having Sweep in/ out facility (Premium A/c)	91002140000046	2,82,854=51	Bank stopped sweep facility
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT IN</b>	<b>SAVINGS BANK</b>	<b>3,75,335=53</b>	
4	FDR – 91004050014287	91004600000615/1	6,71,679=41	
5	FDR – 91004050014287	91004600000615/2	1,50,660=46	
6	FDR - 91004050015150	91004600000811/1	1,41,808=41	
7	FDR - 13000703498	91004030000305/8	3,00,000=00	
8	FDR - 13000703505	91004030000305/9	10,00,000=00	
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT IN</b>	<b>FIXED DEPOSITS</b>	<b>22,64,148=28</b>	
	<b>GRAND TOTAL SUM IN</b>	<b>SB + FDRs</b>	<b>26,39,483=81</b>	

- Completion of Account Books and Audit Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 (after reaching New Delhi on top priority)
- Steps will be taken to have another FDR as there is no point to keep an amount more than 3 Lakhs in Saving Bank Account
- Closure of one account 29585 (Donation) or 46 (Premier Account, as sweeping facility is stopped by the bank) was proposed and approved in the earlier meetings

### **FINANCIAL STATUS OF FSF AS ON 27.06.2021**

- AMOUNT IN SAVING BANK ACCOUNTS : Rs. 3.75 Lakhs
- AMOUNT WITH FIXED DEPOSITS : Rs. 22.64 Lakhs
- ALL ACCOUNTS ARE WELL MAINTAINED AND AUDITED IN TIME
- FOR THE FIRST TIME INCOME TAX RETURN (ITR) HAS BEEN FILED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR (F.Y.) 2018-2019 & REFUND OF Rs. 11810=00 HAS BEEN RECEIVED ON 22.10.2020, WHICH WAS DEDUCTED AS TDS
- ITR FOR F.Y. 2019-2020 HAS ALSO BEEN FILED & REFUND OF 16930 IS RECEIVED ON 16.4.2021, THAT WAS DEDUCTED AS TDS
- FOR REFUND OF TDS, SPECIAL THANKS TO DR. M.K. GOEL

### **FINANCIAL STATUS OF FSF AS ON 27.06.2021**

- RECEIVED INCURSI LEFT OVER AMOUNT OF RS. 42987.50, THAT HAS TAKEN MORE THAN 15 MONTHS (SEPTEMBER 2019 TO 15.01.2021), SPECIAL THANKS TO Sh. S.C. GARG, DR. R.S. DABAS, DR. B.C. ARYA & DR. D.R. NAKRA
- OFCOURSE THANKS TO THE ENTIRE FINANCIAL TEAM
- EFFORTS WILL BE TAKEN TO CLASSIFY TOTAL FSF FUND: SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS, DR. A.P. MITRA MEMORIAL LECTURE, MEMBERSHIP, ADVERTISEMENT AND DONATION
- PRESENTLY RATE OF INTEREST ON OUR FIXED DEPOSITS : 5.2-5.3%
- WILL TRY TO HAVE NET BANKING FACILITY FOR FSF ACCOUNTS