

# Draft Minutes of the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting of Indian Psychiatric Society (IPS) held on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at Hotel Novotel - HICC, Hitec City, Hyderabad

The Meeting of Annual General Body scheduled for 4:00 PM, was adjourned due to insufficient quorum and was reconvened 30 minutes later at 4:30 PM.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dr. SAVITA MALHOTRA, Dr. LAXMIKANT RATHI, Dr. AMRIT PATTOJOSHI, Dr. M ALEEM SIDDIQUI, Dr. SUJIT SARKHEL, Dr. TSS RAO, Dr. ARABINDA BRAHMA, Dr. SINGH OM PRAKASH, Dr. MURGESH VAISHNAV, Dr. G PRASAD RAO, Dr. SONA KAKAR, Dr. MANASWI GAUTAM, Dr. U C GARG, Dr. K K MISHRA, Dr. A K HANDIGOL, Dr. G SURESH KUMAR, Dr. P KISHAN, Dr. M UMASHANKAR, Dr. D KESHAV RAO, Dr. S. DINESH, Dr. N D SANJAY KUMAR, Dr. ASHOK K. ALIMCHANDANI, Dr. PRABHAT SOOD, Dr. N N RAJU, Dr. NARAYAN RAGHVENDRA MUTALIK, Dr. PRABIR PAUL, Dr. H K BEDI, Dr. PADMAKALI KAR, Dr. ASIM MALLICK, Dr. UDAY KUMAR SINHA, Dr. MD. REZAUL HAMID, Dr. SRAVANI GADDIPATI, Dr. BARID BARAN BHATTACHARYA, Dr. UMESH NAGAPURKAR, Dr. PRAMOD KUMAR, Dr. NAGENDAR RAO YEEDULAPALLY, Dr. KRISHNA K R, Dr. K ASHOK REDDY, Dr. KIRAN KUMAR P K, Dr. MATHEW VARGHESE, Dr. PAKHA TESIA, Dr. MAHESH GOWDA, Dr. SONALI SHINDE, Dr. HEENA HARESHKUMAR MERCHANT, Dr. LOKESH BABU, Dr. ARCHANA SINGH, Dr. ARUNA YADIYAL, Dr. ADITYA PANDURANGI, Dr. T S MALGH, Dr. VEDA NEELAKANTH SHETAGERI, Dr. SUVENDU NARAYAN MISHRA, Dr. KREIM AHMAD, Dr. Y ARUN PRAKASH, Dr. SAOJI SANJEEV GOPAL, Dr. PUNDALIK RAMNATH PAI KAKODE, Dr. B RAMESH BABU, Dr. BHAVESHKUMAR LAKDAWALA, Dr. PAWAN ARUN KHADSE, Dr. MOHD AMAN NAQVI, Dr. C L NARAYAN, Dr. ARUNKUMAR N, Dr. LOKESHWARA REDDY, Dr. I SARATH CHANDRA, Dr. T SAGAR, Dr. NIKHIL CHOUGULE, Dr. SHABIULLAH SYED, Dr. RAJ KUMAR, Dr. SUSHIL D. GAWANDE, Dr. PRATEEK YADAV, Dr. SHRI KRISHNA PRASAD PANDA, Dr. M K SAHU, Dr. N G NIHAL, Dr. VELLANKI PRANAHITH REDDY, Dr. NARAYANA RAO KAMBHAMPATI, Dr. A B GHOSH, Dr. SANAT KUMAR DAS, Dr. PRASANTA KUMAR MOHAPATRA, Dr. M. UMASHANKAR, Dr. RAHUL KRISHAN, Dr. HRISHIKESH GIRI, Dr. SHIVANAND KATTIMANI, Dr. VENKATA RAMI REDDY K., Dr. RAJENDRA HEGDE, Dr. VISHNUPANT LAXMANRAO GAWADE, Dr. MATHUR ANAND SWAROOP, Dr. ANIL KUMAR M. NAGARAJ, Dr. SAGAR LAVANIA, Dr. SWAPANJIT BALADEV SARMA, Dr. MAHAJAN ANITA, Dr. DINESH TYAGI, Dr. N M PATIL, Dr. RAMANAN EARAT, Dr. HARSHIT HEMANT SALIAN, Dr. NEERU BALA, Dr. KAPUR RUPINDER, Dr. SWAMINATH G, Dr. ABHAY MATKAR, Dr. JASSAR ABDUL JABBAR, Dr. SEBIND KUMAR, Dr. GANGARAM KAMATI, Dr. KADIVETI UDAYA KUMAR, Dr. NARESH PRASAD YADAV, Dr. KAUSTAV CHAKRABORTY, Dr. SAURABH SANKAR KUNDU, Dr. SOUMYA CHATTERJEE, Dr. PARAG SURESH SHAH, Dr. TOPHAN PATI, Dr. S NAMBI, Dr. SHANTHI NAMBI, Dr. SHAIL VERMA, Dr. R SATHIANATHAN, Dr. RAJESH RASTOGI, Dr. GURINDER PAL SINGH, Dr. HARDEEP SINGH, Dr. VIPUL SINGH, Dr. P K DALAL, Dr. GURPRATAP SINGH SANDHU, Dr. SANJIBA DUTTA, Dr. SONIL PARIAL, Dr. SARMISHTHA CHAKRABARTI, Dr. PONNUDURAI RATNARAJ, Dr. T SUDHIR, Dr. RAJEEV JAIN, Dr. SRIKUMAR MUKHERJEE, Dr. JAYANTA DUTTA, Dr. ANWESHAK DAS, Dr. R R GHOSH ROY, Dr. VIVEK BENGAL, Dr. JYOTI SHEETY, Dr. TANMAINI DAS, Dr. MINHAJ NASIRABADI, Dr. RUMA BHATTACHARYA, Dr. ALKA A. SUBRAMANYAM, Dr. SHASHI RAI, Dr. DEEPAK RAHEJA, Dr. J M KDHAWAR, Dr. ASHWIN KUMAR, Dr. SANDEEP VOHRA, Dr. MADHUKAR., Dr. KUNWAR VAIBHAV, Dr. B RAJESHKUMAR, Dr. A V SABOO, Dr. P SAI KUMAR, Dr. VISHAL CHHABRA, Dr. NIMESH G DESAI, Dr. MUKESH PANACHAND JAGIWALA, Dr. SANDEEP K GOYAL, Dr. ABDUL MAJID, Dr. SANDEEP GROVER, Dr. NISKA SINHA, Dr. ANINDA ROOP SIDHANA, Dr. DILIP KR VERMA, Dr. B ANAND, Dr. T PADMA, Dr. RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA, Dr. PAWAN KUMAR K, Dr. CHYTANYA DEEPAK P. V. SATYANARAYANA PONANGI, Dr. CHANDRASHEKHAR HALINGALE, Dr. C. SADHANAND, Dr. C PANNEER SELVAN, Dr. R SABRIN ROSS, Dr. ARUL SARAVANAN RAMCHANDRAN, Dr. MANSI VORA, Dr. NIKHIL PATEL, Dr. GAUTAM SAHA, Dr. VISHAL AKULA, Dr. V GEORGE REDDY.

## **1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The President Dr. Savita Malhotra welcomed all the members to the AGB by expressing her happiness to discuss the agenda of the AGB, the important issues of the society and called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM

## **2. CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION:**

Hon. General Secretary Dr. Amrit Pattojoshi read the names of the members who had passed away since the last AGB 2024 meeting in Kochi. He mentioned that we have lost many senior and junior colleagues who had served IPS as office bearers and society as teacher, clinicians and academicians. Some of them were internationally renowned for their contribution.

Membership No.	Deceased Member	City	State
01099	Dr. Anandakrishna Kumar Somasundaram	Madurai	Tamil Nadu
04011	Dr. Indubhusan Das	Cuttack	Odisha
04112	Dr. Devendra Kumar Vijayverga	Kota	Rajasthan
04155	Dr. Deepak Vasantrao Metkar	Pune	Maharashtra
07001	Dr. Gopal Chandra Kar	Cuttack	Odisha
07124	Dr. Peedikayil Nather Chettiar Gopalakrishnan	Ernakulam	Kerala
10017	Dr. Janakiramaiah Nimmagadda	Bangalore	Karnataka
11097	Dr. Lumding Star Kharlukhi	Shillong	Meghalaya
16046	Dr. Vikas Ponda	Vadodara	Gujarat

16153	Dr. P. K. Sukumaran	Thrissur	Kerala
16220	Dr. P.D. Sasi	Punnathanathu	Kerala
18123	Dr. Ravi Sankar Pasam	Kakinada	Andhra Pradesh
19050	Dr. Anil V. Shah	Ahmedabad	Gujarat
19239	Dr. Lalit Jayantilala Shah	Navsari	Gujarat
22019	Dr. Vijoy K. Varma	Panchkula	Haryana
22083	Dr. Virandra Mohan	Dharampur	Himachal Pradesh
LOM/A04/09	Dr. Anil Kumar Rai	Maunathbhajan	Uttar Pradesh

The members paid tributes to the departed souls and remembered the contributions made by the departed members. The house conveyed heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and observed a two-minute silence in memory of the members.

### **3. WELCOME BY THE PRESIDENT:**

The President Dr. Savita Malhotra Madam warmly welcomed all members to the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting and expressed appreciation for the organizing committee, under the leadership of Dr. P. Kishan and Dr. M. Uma Shankar, for their commendable efforts in ensuring the success of the event. She highlighted the conference theme, “wellness to illness and neurobiology” noting its aptness and relevance to current professional discourse. The President emphasized the remarkable growth of the Indian Psychiatric Society in terms of membership, visibility and influence in international fora, while also acknowledging the extensive work accomplished during the past year in education, research, advocacy, publications and conferences. Stressing the importance of collegiality, cordiality and unity, she urged members to rise above individual ambitions and work collectively for the betterment of the profession, patients and their families. In her acknowledgements, she extended gratitude to the immediate past president, Dr. Laxmikant Rathi, for streamlining procedures and fostering amicable collaboration and recognized the valuable guidance of past office bearers, including Dr. O.P. Singh and Dr. Arabinda Brahma.

### **4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF 76TH AGBM HELD IN KOCHI ON 20/01/2024 AND EOGBM HELD IN ONLINE ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM OF IPS ON 21/11/2024:**

Hon. General Secretary Dr. Amrit Pattojoshi read out the minutes:

**76th AGBM (Kochi, 20/01/2024):** Regarding the 76th AGBM, the minutes had been circulated one month in advance, no comments were received. The minutes were confirmed and passed unanimously.

Proposed by Dr. Asim Malik and seconded by Dr. Gautam Saha.

**Extraordinary General Body Meeting (Online, 21/11/2024):** Concerning the EOGBM, which was convened specifically to address constitutional amendments, Dr. N.N. Raju raised an objection questioning its legitimacy due to the absence of proper constitutional requirements, an EC resolution and the short notice period. The President clarified that the EC had approved the meeting, citing the urgency of the society’s pending registration in Jharkhand and Dr. Rathi, Immediate Past President, referred to Article 7, Section 23D of the constitution, which empowers the General Secretary, with the President’s permission, to requisition an Extraordinary Meeting of the Executive Council. The House disapproved Dr. N.N. Raju’s objection, noting it had already been addressed during the EOGBM itself. Subsequently, Dr. Raguram raised a point regarding clarity on Life Associate Membership (LAM) subscriptions. It was agreed that while existing LAMs would continue, no new enrollments would be accepted henceforth and this clarification was formally accepted.

Both the minutes were confirmed and passed unanimously.

Proposed by Dr. Vipul Singh and seconded by Dr. Asish Saboo.

**Matters arising from the Previous AGBM:** Dr. C.L. Narayan raised several concerns stemming from the previous Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM), particularly regarding procedural irregularities and the

applicability of the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH). President Dr. Rathi addressed each point in detail. On the issue of agenda deviation in the last AGBM, Kochi, it was clarified that the item in question was taken up first following a request from the House and was approved by 90% of members present, with the President retaining discretion under the constitution. Regarding the POSH Act, Dr. Rathi reiterated that IPS, being a registered society with voluntary membership, does not fall under the Act's purview and the specific complaint had been referred to the IPS Tribunal. Dr. Rathi clarified that the aggrieved party had not sought redress under the POSH framework. The claim that the matter was sub-judice was countered with reference to a denied stay order. The Tribunal had issued an order deeming certain members' comments and advised against such language. The President and Dr. Rathi reaffirmed that the Internal Committee (ICC) lacked EC sanction, the complaints were not filed under POSH and IPS's structure does not support employer-employee relationships. There were many inputs from other members.

The President Dr Savita Malhotra reaffirmed that the minutes were an exact reproduction of the proceedings and had already been passed. The original complaint was forwarded to the Tribunal, which is operating as per the IPS constitution and the IPS has no further role in the matter, as the court proceedings are separate.

#### **5. READING AND ADOPTION OF HON. GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

The Honorary General Secretary Dr. Amrit Pattojoshi presented the Annual Report for 2024–25, expressing gratitude to all members for their continued support. He highlighted the successful organization of major conferences and events, including ANCIPS 2024 in Kochi, MIDCIPS 2024 in Agra and the ongoing ANCIPS 2025 in Hyderabad, which has drawn over 4,500 delegates. He also noted the relocation of MIDCIPS 2025 to Siliguri due to adverse weather conditions in Sikkim and confirmed that ANCIPS 2026 will be held in New Delhi. The report covered the Extraordinary General Body Meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024, where constitutional amendments were passed smoothly, as well as the Internal Audit Committee meeting of December 2024 and the IPS elections conducted via e-voting from 16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date/Location</b>	<b>Key Decisions/Discussions</b>
<b>1st Post-AGB EC</b>	Jan 21, Hotel La Meridien	Formed Core EC Group, discussed subcommittees and Tribunal decision.
<b>1st Extraordinary EC</b>	Feb 9, IPS Zoom Platform	Formation of subcommittees, discussion on Tribunal and SAARC.
<b>2nd Extraordinary EC</b>	Apr 13, IPS Zoom Platform	Discussed legal notice from Karnataka High Court. Approved that IPS Treasurer's Office will <b>bear legal expenses</b> for cases against the President/HGS. Rejected a proposal from Abbott Pharma (₹55 lakhs) as contrary to the IPS constitution.
<b>2nd Ordinary EC</b>	May 25, Hotel The Oberoi, Delhi	Resolution on <b>breaking open of Indian Bank locker</b> (which was empty). Discussed upcoming meeting with <b>NMC</b> on suicide prevention. Approved new memberships (target of <b>10,000 total members</b> ). Approved an award proposed by Dr. VD Meel amounting ₹10 lakhs.
<b>3rd Ordinary EC</b>	Aug 16, JP Palace (during MIDCIPS)	Discussed <b>indemnity for members</b> . Treasurer reported the Indian Bank locker was broken open but empty. Discussed IPS elections (e-vote technology confirmed).
<b>3rd Extraordinary EC</b>	Nov 21, Zoom Platform	Discussed <b>constitutional amendments</b> to solve overlapping issues and work towards obtaining <b>80G and 12A</b> tax exemptions. Amendments were unanimously recommended to the EOGBM.
<b>4th Ordinary EC</b>	Jan 21, HICC, Hyderabad	Discussed guidelines for doctors and professional boundaries in the doctor-patient relationship.

The General Secretary further detailed publications and initiatives, including three newsletters published without IPS budget expenditure, the multilingual IPS Calendar, the CPG program in Jaipur, IPS Foundation Day celebrations and World Mental Health Day activities. He provided a comprehensive update on the society's registration process in Jharkhand, outlining progress, challenges and the timeline for completion. International activities were emphasized, with IPS members actively participating in APA, WPA, SAARC and AFPA and Dr. Laxmikant Rathi's invitation to the Mayo Clinic noted as a significant achievement. Updates were also given on the Social Security Scheme, advocacy efforts with IMA and government bodies, health promotion initiatives and extensive zonal and branch activities. Awards for 2024 were announced, recognizing IPS West Zone as Best Zonal Branch and IPS Andhra Pradesh and Telangana as Best State Branches.

The report also highlighted IPS's support for multicentric studies, the submission of boundary guidelines for doctors, plans for new textbooks and outstanding achievements by members such as Dr. Rajesh Sagar and Dr. G. Prasad Rao. In his acknowledgements, the General Secretary thanked the President, Treasurer, Editor, past office bearers and the organizing team of ANCIPS 2025, along with Assistant General Secretaries. Comments from members included recognition of the HGS's hard work, requests to include additional achievements such as Dr. Indira Sharma's representation at the WHO and Dr. Ranjan Bhattacharya's editorial role in JIMA and clarification on the re-registration process ensuring continuity of the society's original registration number. After the discussion, the Hon. Gen Secretary's report was approved unanimously. Proposed by Dr. Minaj Nasirabadi and seconded by Dr. Sandeep Goyal.

## **6. READING AND ADOPTION OF HON. TREASURER'S REPORT WITH STATEMENT OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2025-26:**

Hon. Treasurer Dr. M. Aleem Siddiqui presented Hon. Treasurer's report and placed the audited accounts of the Society along with the submitted IT Return and the budget for the year 2023-24. Dr. Siddiqui, presented a comprehensive report on the financial status of the Indian Psychiatric Society, covering IPS, MIDCIPS and ANCIPS accounts. He noted surpluses from recent conferences, including ₹56,419 from MIDCIPS 2023 (Srinagar), ₹36 lakhs for IPS and ₹10 lakhs for the Journal from ANCIPS 2023 (Bhubaneswar), a substantial surplus of ₹1.58 crore from ANCIPS 2024 (Kochi) with partial refunds already issued and ₹51,000 from MIDCIPS 2024 (Agra). Audit and compliance matters were reported as up to date, with DS Shukla and Company (Lucknow) re-approved as auditors, ITR for FY 2023-24 filed on October 24, 2024 and GST returns current.

The Treasurer highlighted the society's strong financial position, with a current bank balance of ₹5.50 crore and term deposits totaling ₹8.54 crore, including a new FD of ₹1.90 crore created after ANCIPS 2024. He also reported a ₹10 lakh donation from Dr. V.D. Meel for the Poster Award. Membership processes were streamlined to monthly approvals via email, eliminating backlogs and a new Photo Membership eDirectory updated to December 31, 2024, was completed by collating nine years of data. Membership stood at 9,914, with 916 new members elected after ANCIPS 2024.

Key expenditures included ₹6.28 lakh for WPS subscription, ₹2.66 lakh for multicentric research grants, ₹46,378 for calendar printing, ₹84,562 for IPS Election 2025 eVote technology and ₹4.70 lakh for legal advisory in the Karnataka High Court case. Headquarters maintenance cost ₹41,146, with accommodation available at ₹500 per bed per night, while the registered office in Jharkhand incurred rent of ₹12,000 per month. Contributions of ₹6 lakhs were made to the Journal as per the IJP finance code. Budget figures showed planned expenditure of ₹1.69 crore with ₹1.43 crore spent in FY 2023-24, ₹2.00 crore planned with ₹1.80 crore achieved in FY 2024-25 and a projection of ₹2.20 crore for FY 2025-26.

The President complimented the Hon. Treasurer on the detailed report, particularly the addition of ₹1 crore to the corpus, the creation of the photo directory and the efficiency of online procedures. Members suggested

that all three reports (Secretary's, Treasurer's and Editor's) be circulated by email and Dr. Ponnudurai commended the Treasurer's efforts in collating membership data, further suggesting mobilization of corpus funds through pooled award donations to secure tax exemptions.

After discussion the Treasurer's reports with statement of audited accounts were approved unanimously.

Proposed by Dr. R. Ponnudurai and seconded by Dr. Arun Marwale.

## **7. READING AND ADOPTION OF HON. EDITOR'S REPORT:**

Hon. Editor Dr. Sujit Sarkhel read the salient points of the performance and financial status of the Indian Journal of Psychiatry (IJP). Dr. Sarkhel mentioned that IJP successfully published twelve monthly issues during the year, maintaining rigorous peer-review standards and receiving over 1200 submissions, averaging four per day. The Journal Citation Reports (Clarivate Analytics, June 2023) recorded an impact factor of 1.7, ranking IJP 177 out of 266 psychiatry journals. Circulation updates showed that 253 Life Fellows corrected their addresses and will continue receiving print copies, 227 opted for e-copies only, six shifted abroad and fourteen passed away. A total of 3600 copies are printed, including 353 subscribers, with mailing lists updated monthly and composite PDFs sent to all Life Fellows. Research capacity building was strengthened through workshops and lectures on scientific writing and peer review at state, zonal and mid-year IPS conferences. Fund generation remains a challenge, with efforts ongoing to secure pharmaceutical sponsorships and expand subscriptions, though some sponsors have confirmed continued support. Financial updates highlighted liabilities to Wolters Kluwer (Medknow) of ₹48,33,601.58 as of March 2024, with ₹39,20,000 paid in August 2024 and ₹43,10,708.69 as of November 2024, with ₹30,00,000 paid in January 2025, along with ₹1,40,000 booked under TDS. Revenue for FY 2023–24 included ₹38,97,934 from royalties, ₹56,56,000 from sponsorships and ₹6,00,000 contributed by the IPS Treasurer's Office. Current financial holdings stand at ₹26,30,846.15 in Indian Bank, Kolkata, ₹54,120.35 in State Bank of India, Kolkata and ₹1,37,67,681 in term deposits with Indian Bank, Kolkata. Dr. Sarkhel concluded with a call to action urging Heads of Departments and faculty to actively promote subscriptions in psychiatric and allied institutes, reaffirming the Editor's Office commitment to excellence in research dissemination and scholarly exchange to ensure IJP remains a valuable resource for researchers, clinicians and the wider psychiatric community.

The Editor's report was approved unanimously.

Proposed by Dr. T. Sudhir and seconded by Dr. Sandeep Grover

## **8. DECLARATION OF ELECTION RESULTS BY CHAIRPERSON ELECTION COMMISSION:**

The President Dr. Savita Malhotra requested Dr. B.S. Shekhawat, Chairperson, Election Commission to declare the results for the Election 2025.

Dr. B.S. Shekhawat declared the results of the Election 2025.

- Dr. T.S.S. Rao elected as Vice-President cum President Elect.

Dr. Amrit Pattojoshi mentioned the names of the members got elected from their zone to national body as Zonal Representative as follows:

- Dr. Sagar Lavania elected as Zonal Representative – Central Zone
- Dr. Vipul Singh elected as Zonal Representative – Central Zone
- Dr. Abdul Majid elected as Zonal Representative – North Zone
- Dr. Raveesh B. N. elected as Zonal Representative – South Zone

Dr. Savita Malhotra and Dr. Amrit Pattojoshi congratulated Dr. B.S. Shekhawat and his team for successful conduct of elections. Dr. B.S. Shekhawat appreciated the cooperation and commitment of his team members – Dr. Rajeev Jain as Returning Officer and Dr. Ravindra Abhyankar as Election Officer. Dr. B.S. Shekhawat presented certificates of Election to the newly elected member. Dr. Rajeev Jain took charge as the Chairperson, Election Commission for the IPS Election 2026.

## **9. INVITATION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS TO DAIS AND HIS REMARK:**

The President Dr. Savita Malhotra invited the newly elected Vice President cum President Elect Dr. T.S.S. Rao.

## **10. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF ELECTION COMMISSION:**

The members from IPS South Zone were requested to propose the name of a member who is Life Fellow for 10 years and served EC for one full term as needed for the post of the Election Officer, Election Commission. The South Zone proposed the name of Dr. Suresh Kumar Gunapalli as the new Election Officer which AGB approved.

## **11. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR:**

Dr. M. Aleem Siddiqui, Hon. Treasurer proposed to continue with the current auditor D.S. SHUKLA & CO. Chartered Accountants, Lucknow, which AGB approved and asked to issue an appointment letter for FY 25-26.

## **12. BUSINESS ARISING FROM EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS:**

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Jaypee Publishers**

The Honorary General Secretary, Dr. Amrit Pattajoshi, introduced the issue of a Memorandum of Understanding between IPS and Jaypee Publishers, which had recently come to the attention of the current Executive Council. The MOU, was first signed in 2021 by Dr. Vinay Kumar as Chairperson, Publication Committee and again in 2023 by the then President, Dr. Vinay Kumar and Secretary, Dr. Arabinda Brahma, stipulated that all current and future IPS scientific book publications would be exclusively published by Jaypee Publishers for a period of seven years, automatically renewable for another seven years unless terminated. Concerns were raised regarding the lack of transparency, as the document had not been shared with past office bearers or the EC and irregularities were noted, including its preparation on Jaypee's letterhead, absence of stamp paper and lack of official IPS stamping. The President observed that under legal scrutiny, the MOU appeared invalid.

<b>Key Point</b>	<b>Summary of Discussion</b>	<b>Consensus/Action</b>
<b>Legal Validity</b>	It was reiterated by the President, Dr. M. Ponnudurai and Dr. Sandeep that the MOU: 1. <b>Lacks an exit/cancellation clause</b> . 2. <b>Lacks proper stamping/registration</b> , making it legally invalid. 3. Was signed without the <b>information or consent of the EC</b> or President. 4. Defies IPS procedure, as <b>no individual/member</b> can enter into an agreement on behalf of the IPS without <b>EC authorization</b> .	The document is considered <b>invalid and unenforceable</b> by the IPS.
<b>Misbehavior &amp; Ethics</b>	Dr. Ponnudurai highlighted Jaypee's <b>misbehavior</b> (threatening legal action) for enforcing the MOU and demanding free stall at ANCIPS Hyderabad.	Such actions are <b>unacceptable and completely wrong</b> . The HGS confirmed that the ANCIPS organizing committee (Dr. Kishan, Dr. George Reddy) <b>refused</b> complimentary books offered by Jaypee.
<b>Way Forward</b>	Dr. Roy Abraham suggested that given Dr. Vinay Kumar's long service, the IPS should <b>not cancel the MOU "on the spur of the moment"</b> but should immediately <b>draft a new, favorable MOU</b> to replace the invalid one, ensuring IPS benefit.	The AGB agreed that while the existing MOU is invalid, the EC must <b>sit down, draft a new, favorable MOU</b> in consultation with legal experts and proceed in the best interest of the IPS.
<b>Task Force Accounts</b>	Dr. Parag Shah raised the critical point that many task forces and subcommittees run independent programs, generating <b>lakhs of funds</b> that are not reflected in the IPS audit or accounts.	The President accepted this as a <b>"very important point."</b> EC was directed to ensure <b>audited statements of all funds</b> used by any task force or subcommittees are included in the official IPS reports going forward.

Members of the EC, along with Immediate Past President Dr. Laxmikant Rathi, expressed strong reservations, describing the MOU with Jaypee as undemocratic and non-transparent. Dr. Rathi highlighted longstanding difficulties in obtaining royalty transparency from Jaypee, noted threats of legal action when Jaypee was denied a free stall at the IPS conference and argued that the royalty received was negligible compared to the value of the IPS logo. Dr Arabinda Brahma said that he signed the MOU without reading only on the assurance of the President Dr Vinay Kumar. In response, Dr. Vinay Kumar defended the decision, stating that JAYPEE was chosen for its international reach, with 18–19 books already published and royalties amounting to ₹4.5 lakhs in the last fiscal year. He emphasized that the MOU was a simple memorandum rather than a binding legal contract, reassured members of cancellation provisions in case of breach and defended his integrity, pledging to protect IPS interests against any threats.

The HGS rebutted, noting Jaypee’s refusal to provide a proper legal contract, the absence of a clear termination clause and the risks posed to IPS. He stressed the need for accountability and highlighted irregular circumstances surrounding the signing. The President, citing irregularities, lack of transparency and invalidity of the MOU, sought sanction from the AGBM to cancel the existing MOU immediately for all publications except those which have already been published, while affirming IPS’s willingness to be open to working with Jaypee under a new, legally sound and transparent agreement ensuring fair royalty calculations. The House agreed to the proposal and the motion to cancel the existing MOU with Jaypee Publishers with immediate effect and pursue a new contractual arrangement was duly passed.

### Social Security Scheme (SSS)

The President updated the Annual General Body on the long-pending issues and recent actions concerning the IPS Social Security Scheme (SSS). Members had previously raised complaints regarding the lack of information, transparency and clarity in SSS operations, accounts and activities. It was noted that the SSS functions as an independent scheme sanctioned by IPS, with its own constitution, organized as an Association of Persons (AOP) and not under the Registrar of Societies Act. A successful SSS General Body Meeting was held earlier in the day, chaired by the President, with the largest attendance to date of approximately 30 members. Financial details presented indicated that the scheme currently has over 700+ subscribers/members, benefits have been disbursed to 30 families of deceased members and the corpus stands at approximately ₹70 lakhs. However, functionality issues were highlighted, particularly the absence of elections since the scheme’s inception.

Member	Suggestion/Comment	Response
Dr. Ponnudurai	1. SSS audit should be conducted by the <b>IPS Internal Audit Committee</b> (as per Finance Code). 2. Suggest making SSS contribution <b>compulsory for all new Life Fellows</b> (mirroring IMA's successful model) to increase corpus.	<b>Agreed</b> on auditing. Suggestion to link membership is noted for future deliberation by SSS members.
Dr. Ranjan Bhattacharya	Appreciated Dr. Jagiwala's regular communication; agreed that IPS parent body must have <b>all information</b> and appoint auditors.	<b>Agreed.</b>
Dr. Mrugesh Vaishnav	Suggested that to expedite the process, the AGB should <b>nominate</b> the SSS President/Secretary/Editor/Treasurer instead of waiting for elections.	<b>Rejected:</b> The SSS constitution mandates elections. Nomination is <b>not legally possible</b> as members who contributed the funds have the right to elect their controlling body.
Dr. Parag Shah	Proposed that the <b>AGBM empower the EC</b> to proceed with the regularization and implementation of the finalized plan (including audit and elections) <b>without requiring further AGB approval.</b>	<b>Approved</b> by the AGB.

The President outlined actions taken and the way forward. IPS now has access to the list of members, corpus details, disbursement records and recurring expenses. Dr. Mukesh Jagiwala, SSS Administrator, was requested

to provide complete bank statements from 2010 to 2025 to the IPS office for audit purposes. Once accounts are received and audited, IPS plans to hold elections for the SSS governing body, seek members' advice on whether the scheme should continue, be closed, or modified and ensure transparency and scrutiny of accounts. It was emphasized that the SSS will continue to maintain its AOP status so that its liabilities do not fall on the IPS main treasury.

### **13. AMENDMENTS OF THE RULES & BYE-LAWS, IF ANY**

The constitutional amendments placed and passed in the Extraordinary General Body Meeting held Online on 21/11/2024 was ratified in this AGBM and all proposed amendments were got approved.

### **14. RESOLUTION FROM MEMBERS, IF ANY:**

There was no resolution from member.

### **15. DECLARATION OF THE AWARDS:**

The Chairman Awards Committee Dr. Gautam Saha and Co-Chairperson Dr. Abdul Majid, declared the winners for various awards after evaluating 89 submissions.

Award Category	Winner(s)
<b>DLN Rao Murthy Award</b>	Dr. G. Prasad Rao
<b>J.K. Trivedi Lifetime Achievement Award</b>	Dr. Mrugesh Vaishnav
<b>Shridhar Sharma Award</b>	Dr. P.K. Dalal
<b>Tilak Venkoba Rao Award</b>	Dr. Swapnajit Sahoo

Award Category	Winner(s)	Topic
<b>Marfatia Award</b>	Dr. Dinu Chacku et al.	Development and validation of tool for assessment of psychiatric disability in patients with traumatic brain injury.
<b>Col Kripal Singh Award</b>	Dr. Pratik Yadav et al.	Case control study evaluating mRNA-92B and mRNA-382-5P as potential biomarkers for alcohol dependent syndrome.
<b>Young Psychiatrists Award</b>	Dr. Shalini Naik	Effect of 1 Hz rTMS over the right inferior frontal gyrus, right anterior insula on craving, heart rate, variability and cognitive performance in hero-independent
<b>BPSS Award</b>	Dr. Soumya Jha	Designing and Determining the Efficacy of psychosocial intervention to improve medication adherence in patients with schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder.
<b>PPA 1</b>	Dr. Rajeev Ranjan et al.	Comparative efficacy of family mediated intervention versus early intensive behavioral intervention on symptom domains in children with autistic spectrum
<b>PPA 2</b>	Dr. Akash Deep Singh	QEEG predictors of treatment response in major depressive disorder: a replication study from Northwest India.
<b>Prof. K.C. Dube Poster Award</b>	Dr. Jitender Aneja et al.	Hospital-based multi-centric observational study to explore the prevalence and correlates of misuse of GABA pentanoid among the patients with substance use disorder in Punjab and Chandigarh.
<b>Prof. Murugappan Poster Award</b>	Dr. Harshad Wankhade	Compares of anodal and cathodal high-definition transcranial direct current stimulation over the pre-supplementary motor area in treatment resistant obsessive-compulsive disorder.

### **Zonal and State Branch Awards**

Award Category	Winner(s)
Best Zonal Branch (First Prize)	IPS Western Zonal Branch

Award Category	Winner(s)
Best Zonal Branch (Joint Second Prize)	IPS Northern Zonal Branch
Best Zonal Branch (Joint Second Prize)	IPS Eastern Zonal Branch
Best State Branch (Joint First Prize)	IPS Andhra Pradesh State Branch
Best State Branch (Joint First Prize)	IPS Telangana State Branch

The Awards Committee thanked the President and the EC for the opportunity and acknowledged the prompt support of Dr. Amrit Pattajoshi and his team. The winning certificates were handed over by the President Dr. Savita Malhotra.

#### **16. SOCIETY RE-REGISTRATION AND ITS RELATED MATTER:**

The Indian Psychiatric Society (IPS) originally registered under No. 59/1948-49 in Undivided Bihar, initiated re-registration at Ranchi, Jharkhand on 29 January 2023. Successive Presidents—Dr. N.N. Raju, Dr. Vinay Kumar and Dr. Laxmikant Rathi—oversaw multiple rounds of document resubmissions between November 2023 and December 2024, with the final online submission done on the Govt. of Jharkhand Nibandhan portal on 16 January 2025. The department initially required affidavits from all AGBM attendees, but after negotiation, affidavits from Executive Committee members were accepted. Certified copies of the original 1948 registration were also submitted along with the affidavit of address proof of all the EC members.

On 17 January 2025, the Inspector General requested certified copies of all submissions made to the Registrar of Societies, Bihar, from 1948 to 2019. Given the impracticality of producing such records, IPS engaged with senior officials and on 20 January 2025 it was agreed that an official letter from the Government of Bihar confirming compliance would suffice. IPS must also submit documents covering 2005–2024 (post-formation of Jharkhand), along with an affidavit explaining delays.

The HGS office is actively liaising with the Department of Registration, Bihar to complete the process. IPS acknowledges procedural gaps but assures members that the President and Hon. General Secretary are working diligently to finalize re-registration at the earliest.

#### **17. SELECTION OF VENUE OF ANCIPS-2027 & MIDCIPS 2026:**

The Annual General Body confirmed the venues for the forthcoming conferences after consultation with the respective zonal and state branches.

It was resolved that ANCIPS 2027 will be hosted in Madurai, Tamil Nadu, with Dr. Ramakrishnan as Chairperson and Dr. S. Sabrin Ross as Organizing Secretary. On behalf of the South Zone, Tamil Nadu State Branch and Madurai Local Branch, Dr. Panneer Selvan extended a formal invitation, emphasizing Madurai's historical and spiritual significance and its proximity to attractions such as Kodaikanal, Palani and Rameshwaram.

It was resolved that MIDCIPS 2026 will be hosted in Chandigarh under the guidance of IPS President, Dr. Savita Malhotra.

#### **18. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:**

Dr. Laxmikant Rathi, Immediate Past President, presented a brief report on the international activities of the Indian Psychiatric Society, underscoring the high regard in which the society is held globally. He noted that IPS was well-represented at major international conferences and events, including the American Psychiatric Association (APA), Indo-American collaborations, the World Psychiatric Association (Mexico), the British Indian Psychiatric Association (UK), meetings in Southeast Asia (Baku and Bali), as well as programs in the UAE, Australia and New Zealand (online). A key milestone highlighted was his visit to the Mayo Clinic, described as a memorable experience and the first such visit by an IPS President. Dr. Rathi concluded by expressing gratitude to all members for the respect and honor extended to him during his tenure.

## **19. APPROVAL OF NEW STATE AND LOCAL BRANCHES, IF ANY:**

The President, Dr. Savita Malhotra, presented proposals for the establishment of new branches that had been examined by the Executive Council and referred to the Constitution Committee. Three branches were proposed: Himachal Pradesh (State Branch), Raniganj (Local Branch) and Aurangabad (State Branch). After due consideration, the Annual General Body approved the proposals, subject to completion of final procedural requirements and clearance from the Constitution Committee.

## **20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR:**

Under this item, Dr. Indira Sharma, Tribunal Chairperson, requested an update on the implementation of the Tribunal's recommendations. The Honorary General Secretary, Dr. Amrit Pattajoshi, confirmed that the Executive Council had discussed the directives and that all three recommendations had been duly implemented, including the issuance of official letters and the display of relevant information on the IPS website. Dr. Sharma requested that an official notification also be sent via email and expressed satisfaction that the resolution had been carried out amicably and without dissent.

### **Advocacy for Psychiatry in the Undergraduate Curriculum**

During discussions under Any Other Business, a member proposed that one of the primary agendas of IPS should be to advocate for Psychiatry to be recognized as a separate examination subject in the undergraduate medical curriculum. The President and Honorary General Secretary expressed full support for this goal, while noting that the National Medical Commission (NMC) has shown reservations about increasing the number of subjects, citing its mandate to reduce them. Informal discussions with NMC Chairman, Dr. B.N. Gangadhar, suggested alternative approaches such as integrating psychiatric components into existing subjects like Anatomy and Physiology. Members, including Dr. Roy Abraham, emphasized the importance of continuing this advocacy, recalling past efforts and communications, including letters from former Health Secretary Keshav Desiraju and highlighting the current leadership of Dr. Gangadhar at NMC as an opportunity. After deliberation, the General Body unanimously resolved to make an official written representation to the NMC, strongly pressing for Psychiatry to be established as a separate undergraduate subject.

### **ANCIPS Registration Fees**

A member suggested that the IPS should mandate that registration fees for ANCIPS be paid directly by members themselves, rather than being sponsored by pharmaceutical companies, in order to uphold ethical standards. It was further noted that pharmaceutical companies could continue to support travel and accommodation expenses. The proposal was acknowledged and recorded, with the decision that the matter would be taken up for future consideration by the Executive Council.

### **Tribunal Seniority and Appointment**

A query was raised regarding the process of appointing the Tribunal Chairperson following the resignation of Dr. M.S.V.K. Raju, specifically questioning why Dr. I.R.S. Reddy, the senior-most member, was bypassed in favor of Dr. Indira Sharma. In response, Dr. Rathi clarified that Dr. Reddy, along with other senior members including Dr. Shiv Gautam, had been approached multiple times but declined to accept the chairmanship. He further explained that ambiguity existed in the Constitution regarding the definition of "seniority," whether based on age or presidential year and that this matter was being addressed through constitutional amendment. Dr. Rathi assured the House that all communications regarding invitations and refusals were properly documented in the IPS office. Ultimately, Dr. Indira Sharma accepted the role when others declined and the appointment was made in a transparent and appropriate manner.

### **South Zone Grievance Regarding HGS Speech**

Representatives from the South Zone raised an objection concerning the tone and content of a speech delivered by the Honorary General Secretary, Dr. Amrit Pattajoshi, at their recent Zonal Conference, claiming that it was insulting and caused embarrassment in the presence of an Honorable Minister. The Zone passed a resolution seeking condemnation of the statement, with Dr. George Reddy clarifying that an official program had been sent on February 8, 2024 and a formal invitation on October 8, 2024, thereby denying any lack of communication or respect. In response, the President noted that the invitation of October 8th for a conference scheduled on October 18th provided too short a notice for the President and HGS to plan travel. The Executive Council reviewed both the video recording and the South Zone's letter, concluding that the HGS's tone was apologetic and conciliatory, intended to move past differences rather than being offensive. The President further observed that the language and tone of the South Zone's condemnation letter were not professional or appropriate for correspondence among IPS colleagues. Ultimately, all parties agreed that the matter should be settled amicably and internally, reaffirming that IPS is a family that must work together despite differences of opinion. It was resolved that future grievances should be addressed through direct communication with the concerned office bearer before being escalated to formal resolutions.

### **21. VOTE OF THANKS:**

The Hon. General Secretary Dr. Amrit Pattojoshi expressed his gratitude to President Dr. Savita Malhotra, Vice President cum President Elect Dr. T.S.S. Rao, Hon. Treasurer Dr. M. Aleem Siddiqui, Hon. Editor Dr. Sujit Sarkhel, Imm. Past Hon. General Secretary Dr. Arabinda Brahma and Imm. Past Hon. Editor Dr. O.P. Singh for their support. Dr. Pattojoshi lastly mentioned his sincerest thanks and gratitude to the Imm. Past President Dr. Laxmikant Rathi. He thanked all the members of the House for their presence, guidance and cooperation throughout the AGB proceedings. He also extended special appreciation to the organizers of ANCIPS 2025 for their dedicated efforts.

The AGBM 2025 ended at 8:45 pm.



**(Dr. Savita Malhotra)**  
President,  
Indian Psychiatric Society



**(Dr. Amrit Pattojoshi)**  
Hon. General Secretary,  
Indian Psychiatric Society

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24<sup>th</sup> January 2025, Hyderabad