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**Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics :  
Review of Activities for the Year 2010**

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The Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics is a scientific body, founded on January 03, 1947 with the main objective of promoting and undertaking research in Statistics and its application to Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fishery, Agricultural Economics, Computer Applications and allied fields. The Society was fortunate to have Late Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the then Union Minister of Agriculture, Government of India as its Founder President. He guided the Society for the first sixteen years of its inception even after becoming the President of the Republic of India. The Society had the privilege of receiving patronage and guidance from several eminent personalities from time to time as its Presidents in the past who took keen interest and were a source of great inspiration. In fact, the Society could attain its present status due to the untiring efforts of its Presidents in the past and the continued patronage and guidance from the current President Dr. Mangala Rai, former Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. The farsightedness, overall guidance and unstinting support from the eminent statisticians and founder members, Late Prof. PV Sukhatme and Late Dr. VG Panse have been fundamental to the growth of the Society.

The Society organizes annually a conference in different parts of the country which provides a wide platform for exchange of ideas on various issues of national as well as regional importance through symposia besides holding invited lectures by eminent scientists, paper presentation and awards and incentives in various forms. Last year, the Society held its 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference at Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur, Bihar during December 03-05, 2009. The Society conveyed its grateful thanks to the authorities of the Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Samastipur for organizing the Conference. This year, the Society is grateful to the Vice Chancellor, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur,

Nadia and Vice Chancellor, University of Kalyani, Kalyani for jointly inviting the Society to hold its 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference at Farmers' Training Centre (Lake Hall), Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Kalyani during December 03-05, 2010. The theme of the Conference is 'Statistics and Informatics for Massive Data Sets'. Sessions on three sub-themes (i) Dimension-reduction and Classification Procedures (ii) Estimation Problems in Multi-dimensional Data Sets : Challenges Ahead (iii) Data Management and Statistical Analysis in Agriculture and Allied Fields are also being organized during the Conference.

The Society also publishes an International Peer Reviewed Journal called "Journal of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics" with ISSN 0019-6363. Three issues of the Journal (April, August and December) are published in a volume in a year. The first Volume of the Journal was released in 1948. The Journal devoted to the publication of original research papers on all aspects of Statistics and Computer Applications preferably with innovative applications in Agricultural Sciences or that have a potential application in Agricultural Sciences. The review articles of the topics of current interest are welcome. Journal also accepts books, monographs and periodicals for review. Special issues on thematic areas of both national and international importance are also brought out. The Hindi Supplement continues to be a special feature of the Journal. The high standard of the Journal has been maintained due to the sincere efforts of the Chair Editor, Co-ordinating Editors, Associate Editors and Reviewers. The Society is thankful to them for their keen interest in its activities related to the publication of the Journal. This year two special issues on Statistical Genomics and Dr. GR Seth Memorial Issue of the Journal have been brought out in which invited papers from researchers across the globe were published. We would like to thank the guest editors for their untiring efforts in bringing these issues in time. The Journal of the Indian Society of Agricultural

Statistics is now an open access Journal and is available at [www.isas.org.in/jisas](http://www.isas.org.in/jisas). The Journal of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics Volume 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63 and 64 are available on the website.

The Journal is reviewed by Mathematical Reviews and indexed in Zentralblatt MATH, Statistical Theory & Methods Abstracts. With a view to promoting research in Statistics and improving the standard of its Journal, the Society has been awarding prizes for the best papers published in the Journal for every biennium from 1987 in the fields of Design of Experiments, Sampling Theory, Statistical Genetics, Statistical Methodology, Applied Statistics and Computer Applications. This year, the Society is awarding prizes for the best papers published in Design of Experiments, Sample Surveys, Statistical Genetics/Genomics, Applied Statistics and Informatics for the year 2008 and 2009.

The membership of the Society which is drawn from all parts of India as well as from abroad during the year was

|                                 |            |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Permanent Institutional Members | 29         |
| Life Members                    | <u>601</u> |
|                                 | <u>630</u> |

During the year under report, 28 new life members, 03 annual members and 02 institutional members were enrolled. In addition to its regular members, the Society has a number of institutional subscribers to its Journal in India and abroad. The number of Indian subscribers during the year was 127. Thus, the total number of life members, annual members, institutional members and subscribers during the year was 790.

In order to perpetuate the memory of its Founder President, Late Dr. Rajendra Prasad, a memorial lecture is being organized during the Conference since 1965. The Society has organized 46 lectures so far and the memorial lecture is being organized during this Conference would be 47<sup>th</sup> in the series and will be delivered by Dr. Kalyan B Sinha, Honorary Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangaluru. Also since 1973, the Society has been organizing a lecture in the memory of Late Dr. VG Panse, who had been the guiding spirit behind the Society and its activities. The Society has so far organized 31 lectures in his memory and the current

memorial lecture would be 32<sup>nd</sup> in the series and will be delivered by Prof. SP Mukherjee, Centenary Professor, University of Calcutta, Kolkata.

We have also been organizing special invited talks during the conference, this year Dr Bikas K Sinha, Ex-Member National Statistical Commission, Govt. of India and Dr Kalyan Das, Calcutta University, Kolkata are delivering the invited talks.

The Society has a Research Unit to undertake research on specific problems of current interest under the guidance of a Research Direction Committee. This year, a study relating to the Pattern of Regional Disparities in Socio-economic Development in West Bengal was conducted and its details will be presented separately in a different session during this Conference by Shri S.C. Rai.

The problem of finance for scientific activities, printing of the Journal and other ad-hoc publications could be overcome to a certain extent through grant-in-aid received from the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India and Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The Society wishes to acknowledge very gratefully the financial assistance received from them during the year under report.

The Society continues to be a member of the International Statistical Institute, Netherlands, Indian Association of Social Science Institutions, New Delhi and Federation of Indian Societies of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, New Delhi.

The accounts of the Society for the year ending 31 March, 2010 were audited by M/s K.L. Sehgal & Co., Chartered Accountants, Professional Auditors and will be presented in the General Body Meeting.

The work of the Society during the year was made possible through the advice and help of the members of the Executive Council, Editorial Board and the Research Direction Committee. The burden of the entire Secretariat of the Society has been willingly borne by my colleagues, Dr. V.K. Gupta, Dr. Rajender Parsad, Dr. P.K. Malhotra, Dr. A.K. Vishandass and Shri S.C. Rai. In the end, I wish to thank the staff of the Society for their devoted work.

**V.K. BHATIA**  
Secretary