

NSI Newsletter



President's Message >>>>

Dear members of Neurological Society of India,

It is my honor to present to you this newsletter as President of our society.

For this newsletter, I append some sentences from my article 'Academics and India Neurosurgery' published in *World Neurosurgery*. I invite you to read this article (*World Neurosurg.* (2013) 79, 5/6:632-635.)



An academic body—neurosurgical, literary, or whichever—is a forum of free thought and expression, intellectual vigor, rewarding research, and an abiding camaraderie. In such a democracy of intellect (Jacob Bronovisky's phrase), no one is superior or inferior, wise or otherwise, but one and all are fellow travelers in the search of clinical clarity, investigative efficiency, operative competence, and fiscal wisdom.

"The most important person in the operation theatre is the patient," aphorized Russel John Howard. The most important subject in Indian and global neurosurgery academics is the patient, toward whose welfare and benefit all neurosurgeons and researchers should strive. Such an approach cuts down on individual ego trips, which in any case are an anathema to academic advancement.

Academy allows no hierarchy. The most junior may excel the most senior in many a field. *The senior's stance—noblesse oblige—ought to be Voltairean:* "I differ from you, but to the last drop of my blood, I shall defend your right to differ from me." The Indian sages advise: *Shishyat putrat ichhat parajayam. "So teach, that your student excels you."*

Bliss, in a recent biography of Sir William Osler, has alluded to neurosurgeons as the least modest, practicing a discipline renowned to be the least modest. This observation should temper neurosurgical ego and hubris and should usher in a greater element of humility.

With all the gloss and glitter of the most sophisticated, highly technicized, frequently confessional, richly journalistic and texted, and greatly revered discipline of neurosurgery, a cardinal note of humility appears imperative.

It is sacrosanct, and all that neurosurgery excels in is the trio of imagery, access, and procedure; having done that, the neurosurgeon is left to ponder and pray much like Ambrose Pare: "I dressed the wound, God healed the wound."

The burden of progress rests heavily on the shoulders of Indian neurosurgeons, but as Somerset Maugham put it in *Of Human Bondage*, "Nature gives broad shoulders to those who she wants to bear heavy weight." May neurosurgery in India prosper in the next 50 years to unprecedented heights.

Best wishes,

Prof Atul Goel,
President, Neurological Society of India

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Hon Secretary's Message >>>

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the first newsletter for this calendar year. The past year was eventful with many achievements for our society which are outlined in this newsletter. We had a very successful 67th Annual conference of our Society at Jaipur which was very well attended with a record number abstract submissions and presentations both from within and outside the country.



Last calendar year witnessed the initiation of two new academic initiatives : the monthly webinar and the bimonthly online journal "Current Practice in Neurosciences". Both these initiatives were well received by our members and the feedback has been very positive and encouraging. We hope to keep improving the standards of both in the months to come.

The society's website will soon be revamped and given a new look with several new additions. Your feed back in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

From this year onwards, as per the suggestions of our Board of Education, the executive committee has decided to change the format of the once a year MCQ Award . In this changed format, the MCQ Award will have four rounds. The first two rounds will be on line and the winners from each zone will be selected after the second round and will be invited to participate in the third and fourth rounds which will take place during the annual conference. This will enable more widespread participation from our residents from all over the country. Apart from the Award, the finalists will also get attractive prizes.

The frequency of the NSI Educational courses will be increased from two to three every year. Moreover, the BOE has also decided to publish the proceedings of the Superspeciality CMEs in a book format from this year onwards.

Wishing you all the very best in all your future endeavors.

With Best Regards

Dr N Muthukumar
Hon Secretary, NSI

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Future NSICONs



2019 – Mumbai



2020 – Kolkata

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Minutes - NSI Annual General Body Meeting

14th December 2018 – 1830 onwards JECC Jaipur

Dr Suresh Nair called the meeting to order. As the quorum was incomplete he adjourned the meeting and restarted the same after 15 minutes. He welcomed all the members to the GBM and handed over the proceedings to the Hon. secretary Dr Muthukumar. Dr Muthukumar welcomed the members and started the proceedings.

1. Obituary

Dr Muthukumar informed that this year NSI had lost 6 senior members. Dr EP Barucha, Dr M Sambasivan, Dr PR Thakore, Dr S Athiappan, Dr Sanjeev Bhatia and Dr TS Kanaka. The GB was informed about another demise of a senior member - Dr Lakshman Das. All the members stood in silence for a minute to pay their homage to the departed souls.

2. Minutes of GB meeting held at Nagpur on 1st December 2017: Dr Muthukumar informed that the minutes of the last GB held in Nagpur were circulated in the March newsletter. He then asked for the approval of same. The minutes were approved being proposed by Dr Lokendra Singh and seconded by Dr VS Mehta.

3. Secretary's Report – Dr N Muthukumar

Dr Muthukumar presented the Secretary's Report for the year 2018. He informed that the membership strength as on November 30th, 2018 was 2962 with a total of 2165 as full members. He further informed that this year a total of 276 members have joined the society, out of which 64 were full members- 60 neuro surgeons, 3- neurologists and one allied neuroscience. He further presented the details of members regarding the availability of mobile numbers and email address. He informed that all efforts are being taken to update the membership details.

Dr Muthukumar then informed the EC regarding the Educational Courses held during the year. He informed that the First Educational course was held on January 20th and 21st, 2018 at NIMHANS, Bangalore. The Convener was Dr Malla Baskar Rao. Both the Foundation & Instructional Courses had 35 participants and 8 observers participated in the course. It was successfully conducted under the guidance of Dr Manas Panigrahi, Chairman, BOE. The 2nd Educational Course was conducted at NIMS, Hyderabad on 29th and 30th July, 2018. The Convener was Dr Suchanda Bhattacharjee. The Instructional course had 35 delegates, 10 observers and the Foundation Course had 34 delegates. There were 19 faculty members from all over the country. Dr Muthukumar informed that the Chairman, BOE was getting requests from the delegates to conduct three courses every year and during the recent BOE meeting conducted it was decided that from 2019 there will be 3 courses in the year.

He further informed the general body that the forthcoming Educational Courses, the 15th Instructional & 9th Foundation course will be held in SCB Medical College, Cuttack on January 12th & 13th, 2019. The convener for the same would be Dr Sanjib Misra.

Dr Muthukumar further informed the general body regarding the 3rd Superspeciality CME on Neurotrauma which was conducted at Udaipur on July 6th & 7th, 2018. He informed that 58 delegates attended the meeting and there were 15 Indian faculty members and 1 overseas faculty, Dr Antonio Belli from UK. The Convener for the CME was Dr Suresh Sankhla. Dr Muthukumar further informed that the topic for the next superspeciality CME would be peripheral nerves and degenerative spine and the convener for the same would be Dr Rajneesh Kacchara. The venue for the same is yet to be decided by the BOE.

Dr Muthukumar then informed the general body regarding the new academic initiatives started this year which were proposed during the midterm EC meeting and accepted by the EC.

He informed that Monthly webinars have been planned on 2nd Saturday of every month. The Duration of the

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same would be 90 minutes and the timings would be between Noon and 1:30 PM. The webinar would have one moderator and three speakers with one hour for lectures and 30 minutes for discussion. He informed that the first two webinars had already been conducted. The first was on 10th November on High grade gliomas moderated by Dr Rakesh Jalali and the second webinar was held on December 8th on Hydrocephalus and was moderated by Dr Sandip Chatterji. He informed that the response for the same was encouraging. The proceedings of the webinars were being recorded and put up on the NSI website for future viewing by the members.

Dr Muthukumar informed that the second academic initiative was a bimonthly online only topic based evidence based review under the title "Current Practice in Neurosciences (CPINS)" to be hosted in the Neurology India website with link to the same provided in the NSI website. The first review was originally planned for month of January 2019 but as it was already ready, the same was emailed to all members on December 11th, 2018. The response for the same was positive and encouraging.

Dr Muthukumar informed that the selection of venue for NSICON 2020 was done by the council during the Midterm EC meeting and Kolkata was selected as the venue subject to venue inspection. A two member team comprising of Dr Atul Goel and Dr K Sridhar had visited Kolkata and approved the same after inspecting the facilities regarding the accommodation and venue available there. The organizing secretary of the conference would be Dr Sandip Chatterji.

Dr Muthukumar further informed that there were two bids received for NSICON 2021 from Agra and Lucknow. Both the bids were presented to the EC by the bidders and were found in order. The NSI Council in the annual EC meeting held on 12th December, 2018 after deliberations chose Agra as the venue for NSICON 2021. The General Body approved the same.

Dr Muthukumar further informed regarding the International Traveling Fellowships. He informed that last year the GB had approved to increase the international traveling fellowship from Rs 50,000/- to Rs1,00,000/-. There were 5 applications accepted this year. All five fellowships were granted within the first few months. Dr Jitin Bajaj, Dr Rashim Kataria, Dr Adesh Srivastava, Dr Manjul Tripathi and Dr Rajeev Sharma were awarded the fellowships. In view of the increasing popularity and interest of the members regarding these International Traveling Fellowships, the EC during the midterm meeting, had decided to increase the number of traveling fellowships from 5 to 12 per calendar year. The mandatory requirement previously was that the member had to be a full member for minimum 2 years. It was proposed to have a new criterion included and that was that the applicant should have attended atleast 2 of the previous 5 NSICONS. The EC had accepted the proposal and it was brought to the GB for approval. The general body approved the same and accepted for the same to be implemented from January 2019.

Dr Muthukumar then informed the general body regarding the details of the Traveling Fellowships within country. He informed that earlier the fellowship was for a maximum amount of Rs 15,000/-, but during the Midterm EC meeting it was decided to increase it to Rs 25,000/- for a maximum of 30 fellowships per calendar year. Dr Muthukumar expressed that this fellowship is underutilized at present as only five have applied this year.

Dr Muthukumar further informed the general body that NSI renewed its membership with WFNS in May 2018 and paid 10,656\$ as annual membership dues.

Dr Muthukumar further informed that in view of the recent events concerning data privacy, midterm EC decided not to provide membership directory to third parties for commercial purposes. It will now be provided only to NSI members on payment of the required fee.

Dr Muthukumar then updated the general body regarding the society's registration with the Charities Commissioner. He said that our society was registered with Charities Commissioner (CC) in May 1969.

As per rules and regulations of CC, details of change of office bearers, amendments to the constitution etc. should

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be provided to CC every year.

This was done intermittently from 1969 to 1993 and was not done thereafter. The CC office has no records of our change of office bearers and amendments to the constitution. Every year a copy of the IT return should also be submitted to CC, Mumbai and 2% of the annual income of the Society should be given to CC as Contribution fund. Both of which have not been done so far.

Last year, an advocate, Ms Sujatha who has earlier dealt with a similar problem for another professional society was recruited by Past President, Dr Deepu Banerji to carry out the necessary rectifications and she had outlined the process that now needs to be taken care of. She had informed that the Rectification appeals for each year should now be filed from 1969 till date along with the change of office bearers and constitutional amendments for the period.

Dr Muthukumar expressed that it would be a prolonged legal battle and the advocate wanted three senior members from Mumbai to sign the affidavits and appear before the CC as and when required. The EC had requested Drs Atul Goel, CE Deopujari and Suresh Sankhla to be the NSI representatives.

He mentioned that the following were the advocate's suggestions:

- To file rectification appeals & condonation appeal for delayed filing of reports
- Passing the existing constitution in the current GB for technical/legal reasons.
- Send the approved constitution and minutes of previous three GB meetings for submission to CC.

Regarding the Women in Neurosciences Forum, Dr Muthukumar informed that Dr Anita Jagetia had made a request for Prof TS Kanaka oration and to have separate sessions for Young Neurosurgeons (<45Yrs) / WINS during the main conference. However some members of WINS felt that having such a separate forum itself amounts to gender discrimination. EC meeting on December 12th decided to ask the members of the WINS regarding the continuity of the forum.

Dr Muthukumar further informed the General Body that he had received an invitation from SBNS for to have NSI as their guest society for their meeting in 2020. He further informed that SBNS was the friendship society at the Chennai meeting in 2016 and they have invited us for the reciprocal friendship meeting to SBNS Autumn meeting in September 2020. The venue of the meeting would be in Manchester.

The general body had a detailed discussion regarding the issue of the Charity Commissioner with inputs from various senior members like Dr VS Mehta, Dr CE Deopujari, Dr V Sundar, Dr Hemant Bhartiya, Dr S Babhulkar, Dr K Sridhar, Dr V Rajshekhar, Dr V P Singh, Dr Deepu Banerji, Dr RC Mishra, Dr Lokendra Singh and Dr Kiran and resolved to look into further details of NSI as a charitable society / trust and take it further as it is a very serious matter. It was resolved that the issue of charity commissioner needs to be sorted out as soon as possible. It was also resolved to form a committee to take the charity commissioner issue with members of the committee being Dr Atul Goel, Dr CE Deopujari, Dr Suresh Sankhla, Dr Deepu Banerji, Dr Kiran, Dr Palande, Dr Rajshekhar and the Hon Secretary of NSI, Dr Muthukumar for continuity till the issue is resolved.

The present constitution with all the amendments was passed being proposed by Dr V S Mehta and seconded by Dr R C Mishra.

It was suggested by some members that the webinars should be in the evening hours. Dr Keki Turel suggested that it is impossible to have a time that is convenient to all members. This was approved. Dr Muthukumar also expressed that as the webinars are recorded and posted on the NSI website they can be viewed by the members at their own convenience. Dr Muthukumar also expressed that the webinars are still in the development stage and therefore, the same format should be continued for the next six months and reevaluated after that. This was approved by GB.

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Regarding the decrease in the spot registration fee, it was discussed that the logistics of the conference organization become difficult if the spot registration fee is reduced as the local organizers would not be in a position to correctly expect the number of delegates participating in the conference.

Dr V Sundar expressed that the second educational course dates should also be reconsidered. In this context, Dr Manas Panigrahi, Chairman, BOE, informed the GB that from the next year (2019) there would be three educational courses every year in the months of January, May and September/October every year and therefore the students would be able to join any one of the these three courses.

The GB passed the secretary report.

4. Treasurer's Report – Dr Daljit Singh

Dr Daljit Singh, Hon Treasurer NSI presented his report. Firstly he expressed that it was the beginning of a learning process for him. He then started his report with the various sources of income and expenditure of the society. He presented the details of the incomes and expenditure for the year. He informed that the 50% surplus of the NSICON 2015 Hyderabad conference, 2016 Chennai and 2017 Nagpur have been given to the local neuro societies as per the byelaws. He further informed that almost 88% of the income of the year was spent during the year. He also informed regarding the balances in the two bank accounts of the society. He also informed regarding the details of the international and national travel fellowships.

He further brought an important matter to the general body. He informed that the accounts of the year 2016 of NSI have been brought to scrutiny by the IT department. It was informed that the hearing for the same would be on 30th December this year. He further informed that the team of the Chartered Accountants is working on it. Dr Daljit expressed that looking into the matter he had come to a deduction that it is very important for the organizers of the annual conferences to collect and safeguard all vouchers, bills and receipts of the conference expenses and each and every amount should be accounted for.

Dr Daljit Singh also reiterated that the payment for WFNS Membership was made.

Dr Babulkar enquired regarding the savings of the Nagpur conference and he was provided the same. Dr Daljit was informed by a senior member that it is mandatory to present the audited accounts of the previous year to the general body as per norms to be approved. Dr Daljit expressed that he was unaware of the same and presented the same to the members. It was also suggested that the audited accounts of the society can be sent to all the members ahead of time to be discussed in the general body. Dr Daljit accepted the same and assured that it shall be done from next year onwards when the agenda for the AGM is being sent.

The Treasurer's report was then passed unanimously being proposed by Dr Lokendra Singh and seconded by Dr RC Mishra.

5. CME Convener's Report – Dr Dilip Panickar & Dr Manjari Tripathi

Dr Dilip Panikar presented the CME Convener report. He informed that the CME program for 2018 was planned with 36 speakers covering a wide range of topics. The speakers were neurosurgeons, neurologists, endocrinologists and rehabilitation specialists. The program started with the plenary session, following which was the debate on giant aneurysms, followed by a session on minimally invasive spine surgery and a session on neuro-oncology. The post-lunch session had concurrent sessions, with neuro-trauma, paediatrics, neurophysiology and neurology as the topics. The CME ended at 5 pm with a "How I do it Session". He further informed that there were a few dropouts by the speakers at the last moment which could not be avoided.

The 33rd volume of the Progress in Clinical Neurosciences has been published and distributed. The book has 31 chapters and was supported by an educational grant by Intas Pharma and the book was available to all the

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members free of cost.

6. Editor's Report – Dr Sanjay Behari

Dr Sanjay Behari presented the 2017–18 Editors' Report. He informed that we had an average of 86000 – 130000 hits for the year 2016 for the Neurology India website. In 2017 it further improved and these hits showcased the interest in the journal website thereby increasing the finances. He further informed that for the year 2017 we had the Supplement on 'Epilepsy' with the Editor as Dr Malla Bhaskar Rao and for the year 2018 we had the Supplement on 'Movement disorders' with Dr Sanjay Pandey as the editor. Both the supplements were very well received. The next Supplement would be on 'Peripheral nerve ailments' with the Editor as Dr B Indira Devi. He also informed that the March-April issue of 2018 had received a maximum number of hits which may have been due to the inclusion of a new concept of video section.

Dr Sanjay Behari expressed that the journal's impact factor is steadily rising and now are at an all-time high of 2.166 which is the highest in the 66 years of existence of the journal. He hoped to sustain it in spite of increase in the number of articles in the journal. The members applauded the same. He also informed that there is no expense to the society from the Editor's office.

He also detailed about the new features included in the journal during the year including the new colour page for the first page of every article with a new cover page for every issue which features pictures sent by the members of the society. He also detailed regarding the inclusion of video library on the Neurology India website which has at present 26 videos.

He also informed the members regarding the acceptance rate of the articles which was at present 19% of the total articles received.

Dr Sanjay Behari informed the general body regarding the Neurology India awards which were introduced in the past couple of years. He emphasized that he had given the articles to senior members for review in three categories and the winners were selected on the basis of their review. He thanked all the reviewers for their efforts. He then announced the winners this year; for Neurosurgery - Kanchan Kumar Mukherjee from Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for Neurology – Ravinder Jeet Singh from NIMHANS Bangalore and for Allied Sciences - Chinmaya Dash from AIIMS New Delhi.

He further informed that the address database has been regularly updated and the undelivered issues are coming down every year. The extra copies are also brought to the annual conferences to be distributed to those members who had not received the same. He also informed the general body regarding the advertisement costs for the journal.

Dr Sanjay Behari then informed the general body regarding the book published by Thieme under the aegis of NSI in 2017 called the Practical Neurosurgery – Analysis of clinical cases. The book was distributed free of cost to NSI members who wanted a copy of the book and the pharma sale proceeds of the book was given to NSI. The society also received the royalty for the book to the tune of Rs 1,63,643 for June 2017-Dec 2017 and Rs 61790 for Jan 2018-Oct 2018. The royalty of 2018 would be paid in next financial year.

Dr Sanjay Behari then explained regarding the finances of the journal. He summarized that the average cost per page of a journal issue comes up to 99 paise per page with a copy of journal costing approximately Rs 280 – 306 per issue. The financial expenses for 6 issues and one supplement for the period of Nov-Dec 2017 to Sep-Oct 2018 came up to Rs. 74,52,738. The royalty earned was Rs. 19,47,125.78. He also informed regarding the Current Practices in Neurosciences which was introduced this month which would be updated every two months. He further informed that the Progress in Clinical Neurosciences – the CME book was at present not accessible as a soft copy and he had tried to bring the scanned copies of the same on the journal website. It was difficult to do the same as it is published by Thieme Publications as they were a bit hesitant to display the same on another platform but had

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finally agreed. Now all the previous issues would be available except the last years as the publishers make some revenue on the same and it would be available from the following year. The members appreciated the same.

He further informed that the Neurology India app has been inaugurated by the President, Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer NSI. It would be developed with a very generous educational grant by Lupin Pharma who had not only sponsored for the app but had also promised for maintenance for the subsequent two years. In return there would be an advertisement of Lupin as soon as there is login and a full page coloured advertisement in every issue of the journal for the year 2019.

Dr Sanjay Behari informed the members regarding his future plans which he hoped to bring about with the help of the new editor elect. The plans were regarding complete overhaul of the website and the instructions to authors, introducing new books linked to Neurology India and 'Citadels sculpting future' section to be converted to a book to be distributed to all members of NSI. He also hoped to make articles online as soon as it is accepted and faster review of articles.

In the end he requested all the members to quote articles from the journal in their work, to review as fast and as comprehensively as you can so that even a rejection is useful for the contributor, to contribute nice articles with the journal as we are now an international journal and to encourage young members to read sections on; The fourth dimension, The quest, CENT, Citadels sculpting future, Pathology panorama, Timeless reverberations, etc.

The general body expressed their gratitude and appreciation to Dr Sanjay Behari for raising the standards of the journal to what it is today with an impact factor more than that of many international journals.

7. Election Results - Dr Atul Goel

Dr Atul Goel the returning officer announced the election results for the posts of Editor Elect and the President Elect. He informed that the Editor Elect would be Dr Sarat P Chandra and the President Elect would be Dr Lokendra Singh. He congratulated both the members for the same. The GB congratulated both the newly elected office bearers.

8. NSICON 2018 – Dr Hemant Bhartiya

Dr Hemant Bhartiya, the organizing secretary NSICON 2018 hoped that members were having a good conference. He informed that the number of delegates registered were approximately 1000 as the spot registrations are yet to be included. He informed that the friendship society invited this year was AASNS and they participated in large numbers with a delegation of approximately 20 members and they were given complimentary registration and accommodation. He informed that they were able to manage the finances well and hoped to have a good surplus.

9. NSICON 2019 – Dr BK Misra

Dr BK Misra, the organizing chairman for NSICON 2019 presented the details regarding the NSICON 2019 which would be held in Mumbai in December 2019. He informed that the meeting would be held from 5th to 8th December, 2019 at Renaissance Mumbai Convention Centre Hotel, Mumbai. The conference would be a Joint Meeting of the AACNS and NSI in association with AANS & EANS who would be the guest societies of AASNS. He informed the general body regarding the registration fee structure which was already approved by the NSI Council during the Midterm EC meeting. He informed that there was a registration desk for the conference at Jaipur and the registrations were being made with a discount of Rs 1000 for the delegates of Jaipur conference.

He also informed that as a part of incentive to young Neurosurgeons, it was decided to sponsor 100 young neurosurgeons (35 years or younger). The selection would be on first-come-first serve basis (Maximum 2 applicants from each Institution). The selected delegate would have to pay the registration fees that would be refunded after

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the meeting. The accommodation of the selected delegate would be complimentary on twin-sharing basis. He informed that 300 rooms have already being booked at the venue hotel with another 140 booked at Hotel Leela along with rooms in other hotels near the venue.

10. EC decisions

Dr Muthukumar informed that the EC decisions were already discussed during the Secretary's report.

11. Letters for discussion

Dr Muthukumar brought forward the letters of members for discussion. He informed that he had received letters from Prof Indira Devi, Prof VG Ramesh, Dr Mehendiratta, Dr K Sridhar and Dr Suresh Sankhla.

Dr VS Mehta expressed that it is not important to bring all the letters for discussion in General Body. The EC is authorized to take action on these letters and only those that need to be discussed in the GB need be presented.

Dr Muthukumar brought the letter sent by Dr K Sridhar which he had specifically asked to be put forth to the general body. It was stated that the younger generation has forgotten the efforts of our founders towards building of the society and they should be honored. This can be done by commemorating NSI Founders Day on one of the days of the Annual Meeting, so that neither do we forget our roots, but we also allow the generations to come a glimpse into how this great organization was founded and thought of. The memory of the founding fathers could be brought alive either by Photo exhibition or a session etc.

Dr VP Singh expressed that previously there was a convention of naming the various halls after the founders of the society which was one way of remembering them. He also expressed that there is a History of Neurosciences session during the annual conference as well as named orations that we have during the conference wherein the founders are remembered before the start of oration. Dr BK Misra expressed that an archive can be developed on the journal website. Dr Sanjay Behari expressed that we already have the history of 24 institutions of the country on the journal's website as well as different other sections wherein the seniors are remembered. We also have histories of founding fathers written by the senior members. Dr K Sridhar expressed that the archive material can be had on the society's website also. It was decided that the same would be taken up soon.

12. Any Other matter(s)

As there were no more issues for discussions, Dr Suresh Nair thanked all the members present for a very successful meeting.

The meeting was then called to close.

Long Live NSI!!!

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Minutes - NSI Annual Council Meeting

12th December 2018 – 0900 AM onwards Jaipur

Chaired by Dr Suresh Nair

Members Present: Dr Suresh Nair, Dr Atul Goel, Dr Deepu Banerji, Dr RC Mishra, Dr N Muthukumar, Dr Daljit Singh, Dr Sanjay Behari, Dr Ahtal Kumar Srivastava, Dr Dilip Panikar, Dr Girish Menon, Dr Manjari Tripathi, Dr Sanjay Pandey, Dr YR Yadav, Dr Hemant Bhartiya, Dr VP Singh, Dr Lokendra Singh, Dr BK Misra

Central Office: **Navneet & Kiran Arora**

CA Representative: **Mr Maheshwari**

Dr Suresh Nair, President, NSI welcomed all the members to the annual EC meeting being held at Jaipur and called the meeting to order and handed over the proceedings to the Hon Secretary, Dr Muthukumar.

Dr. Muthukumar welcomed all the members and started the proceedings.

1. Obituary

Dr Muthukumar informed the EC that after the Midterm EC meeting held in Mumbai, the society had lost three senior members, Dr TS Kanaka from Chennai, Dr Thakore from Ahmedabad and Dr S Athiappan, one of the life time achievement awardees during last year's NSICON. The members stood in silence for a minute to pay homage to the departed souls.

2. Minutes of midterm EC meeting

Dr Muthukumar informed that the minutes of the Mid Term EC meeting were circulated to all the members in the July Newsletter and asked for approval of the same. The EC accepted and approved the same. The same was proposed by Dr Sanjay Behari and seconded by Dr Girish Menon.

3. Secretary's report – Dr N Muthukumar

Dr Muthukumar presented the secretary's report. He informed the EC that the total membership of the society as on November 30th, 2018 was 2962 out of which 2165 were full members and 797 were associate members. Out of the 2165 full members, there were 1583 neurosurgeons, 500 neurophysicians and 82 neuroallied specialists. He further informed that this year, 64 full members were enrolled out of which 60 were neurosurgeons, 3 were neurophysicians and one Neuroallied. There were 212 new associate members all of whom are neurosurgeons. The names of 111 associate members were removed from the list as they had not converted to full membership after the stipulated period of 3 years/6 years despite reminders from the central office. Efforts are being made to contact these members to convert their membership to full members.

To further assess the year – on – year accrual of new members, comparison of the data from 2016 – 2018 was made. In the year 2016 we added 224 new members out of which 48 were full members, in 2017 we added 211 new members out of which 47 were full members and in 2018 we have added 276 new members out of which 64 are full members.

He expressed that while the number of new members being added is increasing every year, it is also a matter of concern that the number of full members added every year is far below the number of neurosurgeons/neurologists passing out every year and hence it is necessary to promote a membership drive and suggestions were invited from members regarding the same.

Dr Muthukumar then informed the EC regarding the educational courses conducted during the year. He informed that the first NSI instructional and foundation course for the year was conducted on January 20th and 21st, 2018 at NIMHANS under the guidance of the Educational committee Chairperson, Dr. Manas Panigrahi and the local coordinator of the course, Dr. Malla Baskar Rao. There were 35 participants for the Foundation course and 35 for the Instructional course with 8 observers.

The second educational course which was the 8th Foundation course and the 15th Instructional course was held on July 29th

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and 30th, 2018 at NIMS Hospital, Hyderabad. Dr Suchanda Bhattacharjee was the convener for the same under the leadership of Dr Manas Panigrahi, Chairman of the Education Committee. There were 19 faculty members from all over India. The course was attended by 35 delegates and 10 observers for the instructional course and 34 delegates for the foundation course. The feedback from the delegates was good. There were requests to conduct these courses thrice a year from the participants.

The next course - 15th Instructional and 9th Foundation course would be held on 12th and 13th January 2019 at SCB Hospital Cuttack and Dr Sanjib Mishra would be the convener of the same. He further informed that the Board of Education is meeting during the conference and would try to work out the logistics of conducting the educational courses 3 times a year.

Dr Muthukumar informed the EC regarding the 3rd NSI Super Specialty CME on Neurotrauma which was organized by the Board of Education (BOE) NSI, on July 6-7, 2018, at the Ramada Resort, Udaipur. He informed that approximately 58 delegates from all the country and 16 faculties (including 1 faculty from UK, Dr Antonio Belli) participated in the scientific program. The convener for this course was Dr Suresh Sankhla, member of the Education Board. All aspects of neurotrauma, including brain and spinal injury, radiology, research, recent updates, & newer concepts, and rehabilitation modalities were discussed in detail during the one-and-half-day program. Each didactic lecture by faculty was followed by an interactive session with the delegates. Audience's participation was also invited during the case discussion. At the end, inputs from the delegates were obtained. Overall, the program was liked by the delegates. Some suggestions were made by the participants to improve quality of the CME further such as case presentations by the delegates followed by discussions by the faculty etc. The convener for the next super specialty CME will be Dr Rajneesh Kacchara. The venue and the specialty will be decided by the Board of Education shortly. Dr Muthukumar informed the EC that the Board of Education has decided to publish the proceedings of the super specialty CME as a book and Dr Manas was looking into the logistics regarding the same. Dr Deepu Banerji was of the view that there should be a cap to the number of faculty invited for the NSI Education Courses.

The members deliberated regarding the delegates registering from the CMEs. The members were of the opinion that the courses should be informed to all members well in advance. Dr RC Mishra was of the view that these days the students are not very much interested in such courses as they are able to access all the information digitally on the internet. Dr Muthukumar further emphasized that though the participation was less, the delegates who had attended the same were very appreciative of the content and conduct of the programs. The members were of the view that the tentative scientific program should be finalized well in advance and circulated to all the members. Dr Muthukumar also informed that the delegates suggested that they should also be allowed to present their difficult cases and ask the opinions from the faculty members. Dr Muthukumar further informed the EC that he had invited the local neurosurgeons and NSI members from Udaipur to attend the CMEs. The members were of the view that both the Young Neurosurgeons Forum and the Private Practitioner's Forum should also try to propagate these CMEs. The members were of the view that promotion should be also done through the means of SMS and should not be limited to emails.

Dr Muthukumar further informed the EC that in the last midterm EC meeting he had announced and got the ECs approval for two new academic initiatives. The first was a monthly webinar for 90 minutes on a Saturday from Noon till 1:30 PM. The first such webinar was on "High grade Gliomas" and was held on November 10th, 2018 with Dr Rakesh Jalali as the moderator and the second webinar was on December 8th, 2018 and the topic was "Hydrocephalus" with Dr Sandip Chatterjee as the moderator. He further informed that these webinars are being recorded and posted on YouTube with links from the NSI website so that the members can view the same later. The members suggested that there should be a YouTube link solely for NSI activities. It was decided to have a separate YouTube channel for this activity.

The second academic initiative started was the bimonthly online-only-topic based review under the title "Current Practice in Neurosciences" hosted in the Neurology India website with a link to the same available on the NSI website. He informed that it was proposed to start from 1st January 2019 but was released early as the content was ready. He thanked the Editor Neurology India, Dr Sanjay Behari for his efforts in bringing the same before time. He also expressed that he had received a positive feedback for the same. He expressed that the members who are interested in participating in this initiative can contact Dr V Rajshekar, who is the Chairperson of the Core Editorial Committee for the same.

Dr Muthukumar informed that the next matter for discussion was regarding the selection of Venue for NSICON 2020. He informed that in the midterm EC meeting, Kolkata was selected as the host city for NSICON 2020 and Dr Atul Goel and Dr K

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Sridhar were requested to inspect the facilities at Kolkata. He informed that as per the report received from them, Kolkata has enough facilities to conduct NSICON 2020.

Dr Muthukumar then informed the EC regarding the bids received for NSICON 2021. He informed that he had received two bids, one from Agra and another from Lucknow. The Lucknow bid was from Neurosurgery Foundation and education trust, Department of Neurosurgery, King George Medical College, Lucknow. This trust is not registered with NSI but has a PAN number. The proposed organizing secretary would be Dr Chhitij Srivastava, Additional Professor, Neurosurgery department, KGMU, Lucknow. He informed that the bid mentions that the proposed venue would be Atal Bihari Vajpayee Convention Centre. The bid was signed by the proposed organizing Secretary, Secretary and President of the Trust.

The Agra bid was from Neurological Society of Agra. The society is registered with NSI but does not have a PAN number. They have applied for PAN number. The proposed Organizing Secretary would be Dr. Arvind Kumar Agarwal. The venue would be Jaypee Palace and Convention Centre. The EC members discussed the matter. Dr Deepu Banerji pointed out that the Lucknow bid was from the KGMU trust and not from the state society or Lucknow society. Dr Sanjay Behari expressed that if Lucknow was selected, the societies of Lucknow can join together to conduct the conference. The members discussed both the options in detail. Dr RC Mishra, the proposed organizing chairman of the Agra bid was already in the EC meeting and the members decided that the proposed organizing secretary of the Lucknow meeting would be called post lunch for the EC meeting to present his bid for Lucknow and the decision regarding the venue would then be taken.

The next matter put forth by Dr Muthukumar was regarding the international travelling fellowships. He informed that until last year, there were very few applicants for International Traveling Fellowships. However, as per the decision of the previous EC and GB held in Nagpur, once the fellowship amount was increased to Rupees One lakh, within the first three months of this calendar year he had five applications that fully satisfied the criteria. The members who were granted these fellowships were Dr Jitin Bajaj, Dr Rashim Kataria, Dr Adesh Srivastava, Dr Manjul Tripathi and Dr Rajeev Sharma. He further informed that in the midterm meeting of EC, it was decided to increase the number of International fellowships from 5 to 12 per calendar year and the same would be implemented from next calendar year once the proposal is ratified by the General Body. He further informed that the total number of traveling fellowships for training within India until November 2018 so far was 5 each with a grant of Rs15,000/-. In the midterm meeting of EC, it was decided to increase the traveling fellowships within the country to Rs25,000/- per applicant subject to a maximum of 30 applicants per calendar year. He further informed that these two proposals are yet to be ratified by the General Body. Dr Muthukumar further expressed that in addition to the existing criteria of being a full member for more than 2 years there should also be a criteria that the member should have attended at least 2 annual conferences of NSI in the last 5 years. The members accepted the criteria and the same would be put forth to the general body for approval.

Dr Muthukumar further informed that the society's membership with WFNS was renewed on May 7th, 2018 and the society paid its dues to the WFNS – an amount of US dollars 10,656/- (ten thousand six hundred and fifty six US dollars). Dr Daljit enquired regarding the WFNS Membership. Dr Muthukumar informed that as the society pays for the membership dues to WFNS for all neurosurgeons of NSI, the members automatically become members of WFNS. WFNS does not have individual memberships category as of now. On a query by Dr Daljit Singh, Dr Basant Misra, who was present at the EC meeting, informed that all the members are eligible to contact the WFNS office for login details of WFNS Website to access the education material present therein. The matter of organizing conferences and workshops under the aegis of NSI was also discussed at this point of time. It was discussed that any NSI member can organize conferences or workshops of WFNS but it would always be preferable if the same is conducted under the aegis of the NSI.

Dr Muthukumar informed the EC that during the midterm EC meeting, it was decided that membership details which were earlier provided to third parties for commercial purposes on a payment of Rs 10000/- should no longer be continued in view of the privacy issues concerned after the Cambridge Analytica issue. The EC decided that henceforth, only members will provided the membership directory of NSI after payment of the appropriate fees. The same was reiterated again by all the members.

Dr Muthukumar then brought another important issue to the members.

He informed that our society is registered with the Charities commissioner, Mumbai. This registration had taken place in May 1969. As per the rules and regulations, our society should have provided the details of change of office bearers, amendments

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to the constitution etc. to the Charities Commissioner every year. Unfortunately, this was done intermittently from 1969 until 1993. Thereafter, the Charities Commissioner's office has no records of our change of office bearers, amendments to the constitution. In the midterm EC meeting, our advocate Ms Sujatha based in Mumbai, who was earlier recruited for this specific purpose by Dr Deepu Banerji, Past President, was invited to attend the midterm meeting and enlighten us regarding this issue. She informed us that we have to file rectification appeals and condonation appeals for delayed filing for each year for which we have not submitted the reports from 1969 till date. Moreover, as per existing rules, the copy of the income tax return should be filed with the Charities commissioner every year and 2% of the annual income should be paid to the Charities Commissioner. This has also not been done till date. She had informed that the positive side related to this is that another organization had objected to the same and that there is a stay on this order as of now. Sorting out these legal issues requires a prolonged legal battle and may take years. Fortunately, the same advocate had done this kind of work for another professional society successfully. However, this process may take years and the approval of the GB is required to proceed with this process as it involves payment of legal fees, court fees etc. Our advocate also wanted three senior persons based in Mumbai to sign the affidavits and if necessary, appear before the Charities Commissioner. During the midterm meeting, EC decided to appoint Drs. Atul Goel, C Deopujari and Suresh Sankhla for this purpose after getting their consent. The secretary had personally contacted all the three and they have agreed to represent the society with the Charities Commissioners office.

Our advocate has also mentioned that to start the process, our constitution, the amended version of which is already in the website, be officially passed in the forthcoming GB meeting and to be sent to her along with minutes of the three earlier GBMs. The updated constitution was already passed during the GBM at NSICON 2017, Nagpur.

Dr Muthukumar presented the Women in Neurosciences Forum on behalf of Dr Anita Jagetia, the convener for the same. She had brought in the following proposals.

Prof TS Kanaka Oration should be started as she was Asia's first female neurosurgeon and NSI should honour her for the same. There are more than 80 women neurosurgeons in India and therefore, there should be separate sessions, three parallel sessions, one for WINS, another for young neurosurgeons and third one for private practitioners during the annual conferences.

As the number of members attending the WINS forum meeting during annual conference is very less, the continuation of this forum should be considered seriously

A directory of women neurosurgeons in India should be maintained.

The members discussed these proposals. The members discussed that the Women in Neurosciences forum can be taken in conjunction with the young neurosurgeons and private practitioners forum as per suggestion from Dr Jagetia. However, there was an earlier EC decision which had stopped the creation of new orations and hence a new oration cannot be created now.

Regarding the registry for women in neurosciences, one of their members can take up the same and any help that they require can be given by the central office. It was also decided by the EC that the decision regarding the continuation of the forum or not has to be taken by the Women in Neurosciences forum and NSI will abide by their decision. Dr Manjari Tripathi was of the view that similar to the Meet the Professor Sessions in the annual conferences, sessions with an eminent woman neuroscientist can be arranged to enable the budding women neuroscientists to get some inspiration and discuss their issues.

Dr Muthukumar informed the EC that he had received requests from younger generation that there should be separate session for them to present their papers as most of the time they are unable to present their work in the main sessions. Dr RC Mishra pointed out that the abstracts received are blinded and then sent to the evaluators and based on the reviews given, the papers are accommodated in various sessions and a standard of paper presentation has to be maintained. The EC members were in agreement with Dr RC Mishra and hence this proposal was not accepted.

Dr Sanjay Behari brought forward some suggestions for increasing the interest of residents in our annual conferences and memberships. He suggested that the registration fees of the annual conferences can be a standard fee throughout with no periodic hike to allow the residents to register at any time. The second suggestion was that at the time of associate membership itself the member can be given an opportunity of becoming a life member with only the privilege of voting right not given so that the members can become the life members at the beginning itself. Dr Muthukumar expressed that the proposal of directly becoming a full member has to be passed as a constitution amendment.

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The Secretary's report was then passed unanimously.

4. Treasurer's Report - Dr Daljit Singh

Dr Daljit Singh presented the Treasurer's report. Firstly he described the EC members regarding the various sources of income and expenditure of the society. He informed the EC regarding the details of the incomes and expenditure for the previous year. He emphasized that the expenditure of the society was more than 85% of the total revenue for the last year which fulfills the criteria that 85% of the income for a given year should be spent on fulfilling the objectives of the society. He also explained the details regarding the surplus saved during the last three years. He expressed that he was yet to receive the receipt for the surplus amounts transferred to the previous two year's organizers of the annual conferences. Dr Mishra and Dr VP Singh explained the procedures to be followed for the same.

He also informed the EC regarding the fellowships granted during the year; Dr Rashim Kataria, 99620/-, Dr Jitin Bajaj, 35000/-, Dr Manjul Tripathi, 100000/-, Dr Adesh Srivastava, 92000/- and Dr Rajeev Sharma, 80213/-.

Dr Daljit then informed the EC that NSI had received an income tax notice for the year 2016 for the Hyderabad annual conference. He informed that initially we were asked to pay a penalty of around 58 lakhs and after a rectification appeal was filed by the chartered accountant it was reduced to around 27 lakhs. There was also a notice to present with all the vouchers, bills and receipts of the Hyderabad conference for scrutiny by the income tax officer. The CA representative informed that at first there was some mistake made at the income tax office and rectification was then filed in the month of May-June, and now the department has asked for a scrutiny which has to be submitted by 31st of December 2018. The EC members discussed the issue and the course of action to be taken. The members were apprehensive that this issue may lead to revoking of 80G status for the society. Dr Daljit Singh informed that he was yet to receive some documents from the Hyderabad conference organizers and any action can be taken only on the receipt of the same. Dr Atul Goel emphasized that the local organizers of the annual conferences should be informed well in time regarding the various procedures to be followed related to the finances of the conferences as the PAN Card of NSI is used for opening the bank account for the conference and the local organizers should be instructed to follow the same.

The consensus of the EC was that the NSI chartered accountants should have being more vigilant in the matter of obtaining all the vouchers and bills and books of accounts of the annual conferences. It was also discussed that there should be three copies of all the books of accounts; one copy with the local organizers, one with the treasurer's office and the original with the NSI Central Office. The issue of change of address in the IT department was also brought up by Dr Daljit Singh. Mr Maheshwari clarified that the same can be processed and necessary action would be taken.

The next matter taken up by Dr Daljit Singh was regarding the GST for the society. He enquired whether NSI has a GST or GST is taken only by the local organizers of the annual conferences and the same is surrendered after the completion of the conference. Mr Navneet Arora clarified that NSI does have a GST number. Dr VP Singh further clarified that the society has a GST number based in Maharashtra as the society is registered in Maharashtra and as the last year's conference was held in Nagpur which falls under the Maharashtra, the same GST number was used for the conference. The EC directed Mr Maheshwari to look into the GST matter and sort out the same also. The EC also emphasized that the GST of the society has to be responsibility of the society's CA.

The Treasurer's report was then passed unanimously.

5. CME Convener's Report - Dr Manjari Tripathi / Dr Dilip Panikar

Dr Dilip Panikar presented the CME convener's report along with Dr Manjari Tripathi. He informed the EC regarding the details of the CME program.

He informed that the CME program for 2018 has 36 speakers covering a wide range of topics. The speakers are neurosurgeons, neurologists, endocrinologists and rehabilitation specialists. The program would start with the plenary session, followed by the debate on giant aneurysms, the session on neuro-oncology and the symposium on minimally invasive spine surgery. The post-lunch period would have concurrent sessions, with neuro-trauma, paediatrics, neurophysiology and neurology as the topics. The CME would end at 5 pm with a how-I-do it session.

He further informed that the publication of the 33rd volume of the Progress in Clinical Neurosciences was completed on time

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with most of the authors having submitted manuscripts. Three authors did not submit their manuscripts in spite of repeated reminders. Two manuscripts were withdrawn for various reasons. The book consequently would have 31 chapters.

He further informed regarding Thieme for their active participation in making the publication possible. He also thanked Intas pharma for their financial support and hoped that it would continue in years to come.

The EC members applauded the efforts of the CME conveners and passed their report.

6. Private practitioners forum report - Dr JKBC Parthiban

In the absence of Dr JKBC Parthiban, Dr Muthukumar presented the Private Practitioners Forum Report. He informed that this year the Private Practitioners Forum would have a combined session with the Legal Cell as the conveners of both the cells felt that they deal with similar issues.

7. NSICON 2021 Bids

Dr Muthukumar invited Dr Chhitij Srivastava to present the Lucknow bid during the post-lunch session of the EC meeting.

Dr Chhitij Srivastava informed that at Lucknow there were three main centres, KGMU, SGPGI and RML Medical College. He further informed that Lucknow has air connectivity with almost all major cities of the country. He informed that there were three big convention centres in Lucknow. The proposed venue for the conference would be the Atal Behari Scientific Convention Centre which is in the central area of the city and has a seating capacity of 1400 in the main hall with two more halls of seating capacity of 400 each, 2 more halls of 200 seating capacity and lastly two smaller halls of 50 seating capacity. The convention centre also has facility for in-house food preparations. He further informed that there are many star hotels nearby. He further informed that the venue hotel would be Clarks Awadh. He further informed that the conference would be held under the Lucknow Neuro Club but as the same is not yet registered the present bid was being presented by the KGMC Neurosurgery Education & Research Foundation Trust.

Dr RC Mishra presented the bid for Agra. He informed that the proposed venue would be Hotel Jaypee Palace and convention Centre. The bid is from the Neurological Society of Agra which is a registered society and Dr Arvind Agarwal would be the organizing secretary. He informed that venue has 350 inhouse rooms along with a convention centre with the seating capacity of 1500 in the main hall which can be broken up into three halls with a capacity of 400 each. There were two more halls with a seating capacity of 400 and two more halls with a capacity of 200. There are many 4 and 5 star hotels in the vicinity of the venue hotels along with many budget hotels also. The annual conference of 2007 was also held at the same venue.

The EC members discussed regarding the pros and cons of both the proposed bids. It was also discussed that the last conference at Agra was held later then in Lucknow and then the decision was taken to go for voting. Based on the votes, it was finally decided that the annual conference of 2021 would be held in Agra.

8. Young Neuroscientists forum report – Dr YR Yadav

Dr YR Yadav presented the Young Neuroscientists Forum Report. He informed that he had taken part in discussions with various young neurosurgeons and got some suggestions. The first suggestion was regarding inadequate training in the various institutions. The young generation were of the view that standard residency format / requirements should be laid down by NSI (regarding exposure to various subspecialties, work experience, cases assisted / performed under supervision) to be followed by the institutions. Guidelines should be formed by NSI regarding these various aspects and should be implemented by departments offering MCh and DNB courses so that there can be uniformity in training. NSI can write to HOD and universities regarding the same. Dr Suresh Nair was of the view that the guidelines followed by different universities are different and it would difficult to influence them. Dr Muthukumar further emphasized that Dr VG Ramesh had formulated uniform curriculum for MCh and DNB institutes based on a request from NSI. NSI had tried to contact various institutions but were unable to make any concrete changes. It was discussed to continue to make efforts in this regard.

The next suggestion taken up by Dr Yadav was regarding Post residency training & Fellowships as there is inadequate training in Endoscopy, Spine, Epilepsy, Endovascular, Stereotactic and Functional, Vascular and skull base at present. For this purpose NSI can take up seminars and fellowships and inform the residents regarding various centers offering fellowships in India and abroad. NSI can also advertise the fellowships and programs done throughout the country on the NSI website. NSI can also

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start short term fellowship (1-6 months) program. NSI should also inspect facilities and recognize centers for fellowship by giving accreditation for these fellowships. NSI can also support members doing fellowship by providing 50 thousand per month, maximum up to 1 lac. Dr. Yadav also wanted NSI to sponsor institutes to take fellows from other institutions and up to 5 fellowships per specialty per year can be offered by NSI.

Dr Yadav further suggested that NSI should conduct operative workshops at various places in India within the reach of neurosurgeons in remote areas (North, south, east and west) so that maximum surgeons can take advantages. NSI can also contact HODs of various institutions who can conduct workshops and to establish training labs for training at each center involved in MCh or DNB training.

Dr Atul Goel expressed that he would be bringing a proposal soon to start an interim NSI meeting for the young neuroscientists of the country. The meeting would have sessions only by the younger generation and would be chaired by the seniors who would be mentoring them during the meeting. He expressed he would inform the EC about the details later.

9. Editor's report - Dr Sanjay Behari

Dr Sanjay Behari presented the editor's report for Neurology India. He expressed that all the issues were on time. He informed that this year the journal had the supplement issue on Epilepsy by Dr Malla Bhaskar Rao and a supplement on Movement Disorders by Dr Sanjay Pandey. He informed that the next supplement would be on 'Peripheral nerve Pathology' with the editor as Dr B Indira Devi. He informed that the journal's impact factor in the edition of Clarivate Analytics' Journal Citation Report (Thomson Reuters) was 2.166 and it is the highest impact factor the journal has ever received in 66 years of its existence and the March April 2018 issue received 1,26,342 views in 2 months. This is the highest number of hits for the journal in a two month cycle. He informed the EC regarding the various new features implemented in the journal. He informed that he had introduced video submissions on the journals website and the same is becoming increasingly popular. He expressed that he has a proposal of having a counter below every video and whichever video gets a maximum number of hits, it can carry an advertisement from a pharma or surgical company to increase the revenue of the journal. The members were of the view that as the editor of Neurology India it was his prerogative to implement new initiatives for improving the journal.

He then presented the statistics regarding the article submissions. He informed that the acceptance rate of articles during this year was 19%. He then informed the EC regarding the Neurology India awards for the period July Aug 2017-May June 2018. He informed that the winners were for Neurosurgery - Kanchan Kumar Mukherjee from Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh. For Neurology - Ravinder Jeet Singh from NIMHANS Bangalore and for Allied Sciences - Chinmaya Dash from AIIMS New Delhi.

He informed that he had been taking efforts to update the member's directory and has been communicating with members regarding updating their postal addresses. He informed that the list of wrong address had now come down considerably. He also informed that he had brought the undelivered journals to Jaipur for the annual conference to be distributed to members who have not received the same.

Dr Sanjay Behari then informed the EC regarding the financial status of the journal. He also informed that he had finalized an educational grant from Lupin Labs for developing the Neurology India app directly to NSI. They would also be giving a grant of maximum Rs 1.5 lakh per year for the subsequent two years towards maintenance of the app. In return they would like to have a colour page branding on the last page of the journal for one year and one brand ad every month in the app. They have also requested that there would be no other advertisement in the app.

Dr Sanjay further informed that he had already requested for an executive editor. He had talked to Dr Indira Nachiketa for the same. Dr Atul Goel was of the view that as the new Editor Elect, Neurology India was to take up his position, it would be better to discuss the same with him also and then decide.

Dr Behari also reiterated his request regarding the constitution amendment related to the term of the Editor, Neurology India. He expressed that the Editor's term should be for 5 years, one as subeditor and 4 as editor (and not 6 years). He expressed that job requires a lot of effort and by the fifth year, the editor starts getting tired and a new face is required with fresh ideas. It would also ensure that journal will not suffer. The Editor's term should be until March April issue of that year so that all financial transactions are completed and audited before he/she remits office. The EC advised Dr Sanjay Behari to bring the

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proposal as a constitutional amendment.

Dr Muthukumar discussed having a separate Neurology India stall during the annual conferences where the journal can be showcased along with the other publications of the society. The EC approved the same and decided that the organizers of the annual conferences would be instructed to provide a stall for the journal along with that of the NSI office. Dr Sanjay Behari also expressed that he had received suggestions from many senior members like Dr PN Tandon, Dr Sunil Pandya and Dr Gouri Devi to publish the archival articles from various institutions in a book. He informed that he had contacted the Medknow people for the same and they have agreed to publish it. He also informed that Intas Pharma had agreed towards distribution of the same to all NSI members.

The EC applauded the great work of Dr Sanjay Behari during his tenure.

10. Head Injury Initiative – Dr K Sridhar

Dr Muthukumar read out the report of Dr K Sridhar as he was not able to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.

Dr Sridhar presented a proposal for commemoration of March 20th each year as Head Injury Awareness Day by the NSI with a slogan and poster competition organized and the winners announced at the NSICON during the Public Awareness function.

Dr Sridhar also informed that he had participated in the “Injury Prevention Seminar” organized by the Spinal Injuries Centre Delhi in conjunction with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Detailed discussions were held on the prevention and early management of Spinal Injuries. At the same time discussions and debates were held on Data collection, formation of Guidelines on management etc. A White Paper was brought out and submitted to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare urging the government to recognize RTA as a serious malady and urging them to act as though it were an endemic disease. He informed that the White Paper soft copy had been submitted to the Secretary along with this report.

Dr Sridhar had also proposed for having an offline meeting with senior members of the NTSI to coordinate efforts towards Head Injury prevention and early management. He hoped to present the results of the meeting at the second EC meeting

Dr Sridhar also proposed to set up a Neuro trauma Committee with members across the different parts of the country interested in the field of Neuro Trauma – Prevention and Early management, to enable us to take the initiative forwards in a better fashion. The NSI Neuro trauma committee would be responsible for the conduct of the Public Awareness and other activities during the year and which will culminate in the activity during the NSICON. He expressed that it has been difficult sometimes for the Organizing secretary to do this alongside arranging for the scientific meeting. Each year would have a theme and all activities would culminate in an event / symposium during the NSICON. Dr Sridhar also requested for a separate page in the web site for posting the activities of this forum.

The EC members discussed the proposals. The members were of the view that Public Awareness Program has to be conducted in conjunction with the local organizing committee as they are better equipped to deal with the local logistics for arranging the same. The EC members were of the view that the Neuro Trauma committee of NSI can be formed with guidelines laid down for the same. Dr VP Singh enquired regarding the guidelines being formed for Neuro Trauma by the NTSI. He informed that a decision had been taken earlier that as NTSI was already formulating the guidelines, NSI can go through the same and if found suitable NSI can then endorse the same.

11. Legal cell report - Dr Girish Menon

Dr Girish Menon presented the legal cell report. He informed that he had received a request regarding a case operated at a hospital in Gurgaon. He informed that following the death of a patient the doctor had received threats of physical assault immediately after the death. The scenario had subsequently cooled down. He asked for the opinion of the EC members regarding the stand to be taken by the cell following any such event as to whether the member had followed all the standard protocols of medical practice or not. Dr Girish Menon further suggested that consent forms along with patient information and surgery information sheets can be made available to the members for use in their centres for commonly performed surgical procedures which can be downloaded from the society's website. He expressed that Dr Daljit Singh had already made some consent forms on which he has tried to add further and a committee can be formed to provide guidelines for many commonly performed surgical procedures. The EC approved the formation of a committee to address the issue of

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consent and it authorized Dr Girish Menon to form the committee.

Dr Girish Menon further proposed that many medical practitioners with legal training and experience have started legal firms dealing exclusively with medical negligence cases. They have tied up with insurance companies. These firms offer a complete package – legal assistance as well as insurance coverage. NSI should engage with one of these firms and negotiate to provide customized protection to all our members at reasonable price. The members discussed regarding the same and asked Dr Girish Menon to bring out a proposal in the next midterm EC meeting.

12. NSICON 2017, 2018, 2019 – Dr Lokendra Singh, Dr Hemant Bhartiya, Dr BK Misra

Dr Lokendra Singh presented the details regarding NSICON 2017. He informed that the accounts of the conference have been completed. He informed that the surplus of income over expenditure for the conference was Rs. 1,35,40,876.59. He informed that the accounts have been audited at the local level by the event managers and all the bills and vouchers are at present with them. The EC directed Dr Lokendra Singh to hand over all the books of accounts including receipts, bills and vouchers to either the Treasurer's office or the Central Office for safe keeping. The EC members discussed that for organizing the annual conferences, quotations should be obtained from various vendors and the same should be brought to the notice of the EC.

Dr Hemant Bhartiya presented the details for NSICON 2018. He informed that he had contracted the same event manager as that for NSICON 2015 and NSICON 2017. He informed that at first he had hired another event manager and then had hired the present event manager. He informed that there were around 700 delegates registered with around 500 accompanying persons. He also informed regarding the various arrangements of the conference.

Dr BK Misra, the organizing chairman for NSICON 2019 presented his report. He informed that the 2019 NSICON would be a Joint Meeting of the 15th AACNS and 65th NSI from 5th to 8th December, 2019 in Mumbai. This is the first time that the 4 yearly Asian Australasian Congress of Neurological Surgeons (AACNS) is coming to India. He thanked NSI for accepting to organize NSICON 2019 as a joint meeting with Asian Australasian Society of Neurological Surgeons (AASNS). The venue of the conference would be Renaissance Mumbai Convention Centre Hotel, Mumbai. He informed that NSICON 2001 was also organized in the same hotel. The official guest societies would be AANS & EANS. The preparations for the meeting have begun and the meeting website is already uploaded and functional. The webpage address is www.aasns.nsi2019.org.

He presented the registration fees for the same. He informed that a special discount of 1000 Rupees on the Early Bird Registration is being offered till the end of NSICON in Jaipur. As a part of incentive to young Neurosurgeons, it was decided to sponsor 100 young neurosurgeons (35 years or younger). The selection would be on first-come-first serve basis (Maximum 2 applicants from each Institution). The selected delegate would have to pay the registration fees that would be refunded after the meeting. The accommodation of the selected delegate would be complimentary on twin-sharing basis.

He further informed that around 400 rooms at Hotel Renaissance and Hotel Leela have been already reserved and residential packages at a very reasonable rate have been negotiated with the hotels. The hotel rooms booking would be on first-come-first basis.

Dr Basant Misra informed that as per information in the 2015 EC meetings and further ratifications in the subsequent meetings, the NSI sessions would be on the first day and comprise of NSI sessions of Orations, Plenary sessions, Symposia, Guest lectures, Award papers etc, and other sessions like debates and discussions, How I do sessions, Interactive videos sessions, Free papers, and Digital posters sessions can be combined with the joint meeting. The joint meeting is likely to be attended by international guests and faculty from all across the globe. A number of international faculties have already confirmed their participation in the said meeting. The theme of this congress would be 'Towards One World'.

Dr Atul Goel expressed that NSI should be the primary society as this is our annual conference and our members should be given prominence. The conduct of the scientific program should be the prerogative of the incoming President Elect as a Chairman, Scientific Committee, NSICON 2019. Dr Basant Misra assured Dr Atul Goel that the importance and interests of NSI would not be compromised. He also reiterated that 50% of the surplus of the conference would come to NSI and all financial management will be done as per the NSI rules and regulations as has been done in the past..

13. Election Report - Dr Atul Goel

Dr Atul Goel, the President Elect and the election officer informed that process of the elections started on 10th November

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and finished on 11th December at midnight. There were around 600 votes cast for the posts of President Elect and Editor Elect, Neurology. The selected members were Dr Lokendra Singh for the post of President Elect and Dr Sarat Chandra for the post of Editor Elect.

14. Congratulations

Dr Muthukumar informed that Dr Basant Misra has been honoured with Dr BC Roy National Award in the category of Eminent Medical Person. Dr K Ganapathy has been appointed to the editorial board of Telemedicine and eHealth, the official journal of the "American Telemedicine Association" and the "International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth". This is a leading telemedicine journal with the highest impact index.

The EC congratulated both the members

15. Letters for discussion

Dr Muthukumar brought out letters received by him for discussions for the EC meeting. He informed that the first letter received by him was from Dr Mehndiratta wherein he had written that neurologists are not given prominence in our society. The second letter was from Dr VG Ramesh wherein he had expressed concern that the base of NSI has been weakened by the formation of separate neurology and neurosurgery societies along with a plethora of subspecialty societies, gradually undermining the importance of NSI. He expressed that all the subspecialty societies should in fact be subspecialty sections of NSI. The EC was of the view that the society cannot stop individuals from creating any subspecialty society.

Dr Muthukumar then informed the EC regarding the letter from Dr K Sridhar to consider commemorating NSI Founders Day on one of the days of the Annual Meeting, so that neither do we forget our roots, but we also allow the generations to come to have a glimpse into how this great organization was founded. The memory of the founding fathers could be brought alive either by Photo exhibition, a session etc. The EC was of the view that we already have History of Neurosciences Sessions wherein our seniors are remembered and honored.

Dr Muthukumar further informed the EC regarding another letter received from Dr K Sridhar wherein he had requested that the preconference workshops during the annual conferences should be reinstated and had offered to conduct the same. Dr RC Mishra informed the EC that there were some logistical problems with the NSI-CNS workshops due to which it was stopped. It was discussed that it would be easier for the local faculty to conduct the same with the help organizing committee. It was discussed to look into the logistics to have the same in Mumbai.

The next letter was from Dr Suresh Sankhla, member, BOE, wherein he had requested that all the board members should meet atleast once during the annual EC meeting. Dr Muthukumar informed that this was accepted by the BOE and that the board members would be meeting during the NSICON in Jaipur.

Dr Suresh Sankhla and Dr K Sridhar expressed their views on Head Injury Initiative. Dr Muthukumar expressed that Dr K Sridhar can be asked to include Dr Suresh Sankhla in the Neurotrauma committee.

The next letter for discussion was from Dr MallaBhaskar Rao regarding the Centenaries of Dr RM Varma in 2021 and of Dr B Ramamurthi in the year 2022. He also requested NSI to form a Senior Neurosurgeons Forum. Dr Muthukumar was requested to get more details regarding Dr Malla Bhaskar Rao's suggestions for the same.

The last letter was from Dr B Indira Devi regarding the Women in Neurosciences forum and the same had been discussed in detail earlier in the meeting.

16. Any Other matters

There were no other matters to be discussed and the last agenda was the acknowledgment of services of Dr RC Mishra, past president; Dr VP Singh, the past Hon Secretary, Dr Sarat Chandra; the past Hon Treasurer who were finishing their term in the EC during the annual conference. All the three received certificates from the President, Secretary and Treasurer for services rendered to the Society during their tenure.

17. Closing Remarks – Dr Suresh Nair

Dr Suresh Nair thanked all the EC for a very fruitful and positive discussion and called the meeting to close.

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Minutes - II NSI Executive Council Meeting

Attended by:

Suresh Nair, Atul Goel, Deepu Banerji, Lokendra Singh, N Muthukumar, Sanjay Behari, Hemant Bhartiya, Girish Menon, Sanjay Pandey, Dilip Panikar

Central Office

Navneet Arora, Kiran Arora

Dr Suresh Nair welcomed all the members of the EC to the 2nd EC Meeting and called the meeting to order. He then handed over the proceedings to Dr Muthukumar. Dr Muthukumar congratulated and applauded the efforts of Dr Hemant Bhartiya and the entire organizing team for the successful conduct of the conference.

He informed that the first information he had to give to the EC was regarding the decisions taken by the Board of Education in their meeting. He informed that looking at the popularity of the educational courses and the requests by the residents; the board has decided to conduct the Instructional & Foundation courses three times a year from 2019, the first in January, second in May and the third in the month of October. He further informed that the proceedings of the Super Specialty CME would from 2019 be brought out as a book and Intas Pharma who takes care of the logistics of the course has also agreed to sponsor the book. He also informed that the next Super Specialty CME would be held at Shillong. He further informed that Dr Rajneesh Kachhara would be the CME Convener but there would also be two local co-ordinators to take care of local arrangements. The two members decided for this year's CME were D Baishya and Dr Bernard Lyngodh. He further expressed that for the last few years the MCQ Test conducted during the annual conference was conducted by two members. Discussions were made during the BOE Meeting that from onwards the same can be conducted by the BOE with a change in the Performa of the same. It was decided that the board shall come up with a proposal before the Mid Term EC meeting and the same can be then decided upon.

He then informed the EC regarding the SBNS invitation for a reciprocal friendship meeting for the 2020 autumn meeting in September 2020. Dr Deepu further informed that seven members of SBNS had attended the NSI conference in 2016 in Chennai with registration and accommodation provided for them. Dr Muthukumar expressed that he shall contact them for modalities and present the report in the mid term EC meeting. Dr Sanjay Behari expressed that talks can be made to send 20 residents to UK for a fellowship of 7 -10 days before or after the conference.

The EC then discussed regarding the Income Tax issues. Dr Atul Goel expressed that instructions should be specifically given to the organizers of the annual conferences regarding the various formalities that have to be fulfilled. Dr Lokendra expressed that bye laws for organizing conferences should be framed to include all aspects of conference management. The EC discussed regarding the tax scrutiny for NSICON 2015. The EC also discussed regarding the status of 80G. Dr Atul Goel enquired regarding the funds of the society. Dr Sanjay Behari expressed that some senior members of the society can go and meet the Income Tax Commissioner at Mumbai. It was decided that Dr Atul Goel along with the treasurer, Dr Daljit Singh, Dr Deopujari and the NSI CA can go and meet with the Income Tax commissioner in Mumbai. Dr Muthukumar then inquired regarding the issue with Dr Daljit Singh on phone as he was not available for the meeting due to personal commitments and Dr Daljit had informed that the CA has assured that once the vouchers are received from Hyderabad she would be submitting the same and the matter would be solved.

Further Dr Atul Goel expressed that from the next annual conference onwards clear guidelines and protocols should be given to the local organizers regarding the use of NSI PAN Card and submission of account statements during the preparations of the conference and the books of accounts after the conference.

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The EC also enquired regarding the updates on the Charity Commissioner issue. The EC then decided that as a committee for the same has already been formed during the General Body meeting, this committee will provide an update during the mid term meeting.

Mr Navneet Arora from Central Office requested for sanctioning funds for taking SMS and Mass Email packs and increasing the space for the current email of the society. The EC enquired regarding the expenses and approved the same. Mr Navneet also requested for an increase in the salary and the President expressed that the same can be discussed with the treasurer and decided.

Dr Suresh Nair expressed that Dr Franco Servadie has requested that he does not want an honorarium but instead his travel expenses can be reimbursed. The EC approved by passing the resolution. Further he informed that Dr BK Misra was requested to deliver the Jacob Chandy Oration and he was eligible for an Honorarium of Rs 2500 dollars. Dr Misra had expressed that he does not want the honorarium but would like to get the same donated to the WFNS India Trust. The EC agreed for the same and passed a resolution and approved the same.

Dr Suresh Nair then thanked the EC for their support during his tenure and called the meeting to close.

News from WFNS (I) Trust

Dr A K Banerji has stepped down as Secretary WFNS (I) Trust. The new Secretary is Dr V P Singh

The email address remains the same. All further correspondence may be done with Dr V P Singh

Dr Basant K Misra has joined as a new 'Life Trustee' in place of the Late Dr M Sambasivan

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Forthcoming events - 2019 >>>

MDSICON 2019

Dates: 22nd - 24th February 2019

Venue: The Ashok, New Delhi

Website: www.mdsicon2019.com

SGPGI Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery Workshop & Annual Oration - 2019

Dates: 23rd - 24th February 2019

Venue: Dept of Neurosurgery, SGPGIMS, Lucknow

Contact Person: Dr Jayesh Sardhara / Dr Anant Mehrotra

Website: sgpgioration19@gmail.com

ACNS & WFNS Foundation Live Surgery - Seminar

Dates: 16th - 17th March 2019

Venue: 15 Floor, KIMS Auditorium, Hyderabad, India

Contact Person: Dr Manas Panigrahi, Dr Y B V K Chandrashekhar

Website: www.brainandspinesociety.in

WFNS 2019 International Meeting

Dates: 21st - 24th March 2019

Venue: Crowne Plaza ,Belgrade, Serbia

Website: www.wfnsbelgrade2019.talkb2b.net

Cost Effective Use Of Technology In Health-Neurosciences

Dates: 28th - 31st March 2019

Venue: Holiday inn, GOA

Contact Person: Prof Deepak Agrawal

Website: www.sceuth.org

11th Annual Conference of the Indian Society Of Neuro-Oncology

Dates: 05th - 07th April 2019

Venue: Jehan Numa Palace, Bhopal

Contact Person: Dr Nitin Garg / Dr RK Panday

Website: www.isnocon2019.com

Live Neurosurgery workshop

Dates: 22nd - 24th April, 2019

Venue: KEM Hospital, Parel, Mumbai

Eighth Annual World Course in Brain Tumour Surgery

Dates: 18th - 21st July 2019

Venue: London

Website: www.neurosurgery-courses.com

Annual Conference of Indian Society of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery (ISSFN) - STEREOCON 2019

Dates: 16th - 18th August 2019

Venue: Kochi Marriott Hotel, Kochi

Website: www.stereocon2019.com

NIMHANS ARPrAN-2019

Dates: 16th - 18th August 2019

Venue: NIMHANS Convention Centre Karnataka

Contact Person Dr Netravathi M, Dr Nitish Kamble

Email: arpran.nimhans@gmail.com

Neurovascon 2019

Dates: 14th - 15th September 2019

Venue: Mayfair Hotel, Bhubaneswar

Contact person Dr.Pradipta Tripathy

Website: www.neurovascon2019.com

Joint Meeting Of 15th AACNS & 68th Annual Conference of NSI

Dates: 05th - 09th December 2019

Venue: Renaissance Mumbai Convention Centre Hotel, Mumbai

Website: www.aasns.nsi2019.org

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Bids for hosting the Annual meeting of Neurological society of India 2022

Bids are invited for annual meeting of Neurological Society of India – NSICON 2022 from across all members of NSI. The bid forms are available on NSI website for downloads. Please note that the last date for sending the bids is 15th May 2019. Please go through the requirements in the forms available and also ensure the requirements as per bye laws.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Nominations are invited for lifetime achievement awards. Awards would be presented during the Inaugural function of the Annual Conference to Life Members above the age of 75 years who have played a significant role in the development of Neurosciences in India and there shall be not more than 5 awards each year. Nominations should be sent in the prescribed format to the Secretary before 15th April 2019 which shall be considered and approved by Executive Committee during midterm EC meeting.

Website www.neurosocietyindia.org

NSI website is in the process of being revamped and made more functional & appealing. All members, institutions may forward their URL identity & emails immediately to centraloffice.nsi@gmail.com so that data may be updated.

Members Username & Password

All members (Full/Life and Associate) are eligible to obtain their Username and Password to access their profile on the NSI website (www.neurosocietyindia.org). Since this is the only Address Database used by all the Officials of the Society (Editor, Secretary, Treasurer, President Elect), it is in your interest to ensure that your address and email address are accurate. All members are requested to obtain the same by writing to the centraloffice.nsi@gmail.com details on how to access your personal profile will be mentioned in the letter sent along with the username and password. In case of any difficulty please contact the Central Office at the email address mentioned above. This is an appeal to all members to provide their email id so that the communications between the Society and the Members will be easy and paperless. You will also benefit by being sent Email Alerts about various activities of and news about the Society. Please cooperate by immediately applying for your username and password.

Officers of Regional Neuroclubs / Societies

The Executive Committee of NSI requests all regional neuro clubs/societies to register with the NSI as being representative of neuroscientists of that region. This registration will become mandatory to be recognized as bona fide representative club/society of that region when bidding for the Annual Conference of NSI. If more than one regional club/society claims representative status then a list of members who are also NSI members with their NSI membership number and signatures will have to be appended with the registration form. Registration form is available on the NSI website (www.neurosocietyindia.org) in the Download forms section.

Pincode Required

This is an appeal to all members to update their full contact address with pincode as it is required for sending the Society journal Neurology India by post. To access your address on the web based database, please obtain Username and Password by writing to the Webmaster. Details are available on the NSI website:

Tariff for Advertisements in the Newsletter

Back Cover (Last) Coloured Rs. 50,000/-

Any Page Inside (Full) Coloured Rs. 40,000/-

Shared Page Advertisement 2 on 1 Coloured Rs. 30,000/-

Shared Page Advertisement 3 on 1 Coloured Rs. 20,000/-

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Associate Members

The associate members who have finished their training should become full members as soon as possible. Please send in your application for conversion to full life membership as soon as possible. There is a special fee for conversion from associate to full member.

Contribution to the Educational Page of the NSI Website

Members are encouraged to visit the site www.neurosocietyindia.org.

Members desirous of submitting academic information in the website may please contact Dr. N. Muthukumar, Hon Secretary, NSI at centraloffice.nsi@gmail.com.

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Event Architects has the reputation of being knowledgeable, experienced, ethical, pioneering and dependable. Our team is fully dedicated to meeting the highest standards in the industry. We have a team of bright young go getters with a singular mission towards commitment for our members.

Having handled thousands of members over a couple of national societies of different specialties, our team offers the members meticulously customized, practical and efficient solutions rather than providing run-of-the-mill/standard services.

Assuring you all of our organization's 100% commitment towards Neurological Society of India.



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