

**SOCIETY FOR PLANT BIOCHEMISTRY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY**  
**DIVISION OF BIOCHEMISTRY, ICAR-IARI, NEW DELHI**

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**Proceedings of the Annual General Body Meeting of the Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology (SPBB) held on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at Bharat Ratna C. Subramaniam Auditorium, NASC Complex, New Delhi**

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology (SPBB) was held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 during the 'International Conference on Biochemical and Biotechnological Approaches for Crop Improvement' at NASC Complex, New Delhi with the following agenda items:

1. Presentation of Reports (Secretary, Treasurer and Chief Editor)
2. Others by the permission of the Chair

The meeting was initially scheduled at 07:30 PM, however it had to be postponed to 08:00 PM due to lack of quorum. A total of 21 members attended this meeting. Dr. Aruna Tyagi, Secretary, SPBB coordinated the meeting by welcoming the Chairman, Dr. S. L. Mehta (President, SPBB), Drs. Anil Dahuja & Ramavtar Sharma (Vice-Presidents), Dr. R. Srinivasan (Chief Editor, JPBB), Dr. Archana Singh (Treasurer), and EC members.

At the outset, the Chairman, Dr. S. L. Mehta welcomed the members and requested Dr. Aruna Tyagi, Secretary (SPBB), to present the Secretary's report. Dr. Tyagi placed on record a deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to all the previous and present Executive members of the Society for their continuous support in strengthening the Society.

Then, she updated the house regarding different activities executed during the period from 23.09.2022 to 30.10.2023 as given below under the umbrella of the SPBB:

**1. National Symposium 2022**

National Symposium on Emerging Innovations in Plant Molecules for Achieving Food and Nutritional Security in collaboration with Navsari Agricultural University (NAU), Navsari & Division of Biochemistry, ICAR-IARI at NAU, Navsari during 22-23 September 2022 in Hybrid mode.

**2. Workshop**

- a) The two days workshop for school students (Class IX-XII) on "Plant Biotechnology: Science, Applications and Opportunities" was organised at ICAR-National Institute for Plant Biotechnology during 10-11 November, 2022.
- b) Three days workshop cum hands-on-training on "Basic Techniques of Plant Proteomics" was organised at Akal University, Bathinda during 21-23 November 2022.

### 3. **Training**

Three days training program on 'Genetic Engineering of Pulses and Beyond' was organised at ICAR- Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur, UP during 16-18 November, 2022.

### 4. **Foundation day lecture**

The Foundation Day lecture of SPBB was delivered by Prof. Akhilesh K. Tyagi, Professor, DUSC, New Delhi on the topic entitled, "Analysis of rice gene function during development" on 15.11.2022 at NRL Auditorium, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.

5. **SPBB-Springer young scientist award:** During the National Symposium-2022, five young scientists/scholars were been selected by the committee experts and awarded with a vouchers of EURO-250 each from Springer Nature side purchase of e-books and cash prize of Rs. 5000/- from the SPBB.

Furthermore Dr. Tyagi informed the house about the following upcoming activities:

- a. Workshop on 'Entrepreneurship in Food Biochemistry Basis for Healthy Food' will be organised at Div. of Biochemistry, ICAR IARI.
- b. Workshop on Recombinant DNA Technology: Awareness, Approaches and Applications at ICAR-NIPB, New Delhi

She also updated the house about the current status of members in SPBB, as given below:

- Life Members : 1001
- Institutional Members : 05
- Annual Members (2023) : 05 (04 Ordinary and 01 Student)

### 6. **National Symposium 2024**

Dr. Tyagi informed the house about the proposal received from SKUAST-Jammu for hosting the National Conference on "Biochemistry and Biotechnology for Holistic Development of Agriculture" during 2024. The chairman agreed with the proposal.

After the presentation of Dr. Tyagi, chairman then requested Dr. Archana Singh, Treasurer, SPBB to brief and update the financial health of the society to the members. Dr. Singh welcomed the members and presented the financial status amidst the house as per the audited annual accounts (Year 2022-2023). She thanked all the past Treasures of the Society for transferring her a strong and sound financial foundation to further build upon. She also thanked Dr. R. Srinivasan, Chief Editor (JPBB) & Dr. Mamta Kapila, Executive Publisher, Springer Nature India Pvt. Ltd. for their unstinted support for royalty.

After the presentation of Dr. Archana Singh, chairman then requested Dr. R. Srinivasan to present the Chief Editor's report. Dr. Srinivasan welcomed the members and briefed regarding current status and progress of the in-house Journal (JPBB). Dr Srinivasan thanked the office bearers of the society for their support and also acknowledged the support of editorial board members and reviewers for their hard work in processing the manuscripts. He then apprised the members about following points:

- At present, approximately 600-650 manuscripts are being received, out of which 50-60 finally get published. At present we publish four issues per year.
- The current Impact factor of JPBB (for the year 2022) is 1.9 and royalty received from Springer Nature India Pvt. Ltd. for the calendar year 2022 was Rs. 12,31,069/-.
- Special Issue: Next generation sequencing technologies for improvement of crop plants is under process and will be released shortly.

In the end, he requested all the members to submit their high quality research papers in JPBB to further enhance the visibility of JPBB.

The chairman applauded and congratulated Dr. Aruna Tyagi, Dr. Archana Singh and Dr. R. Srinivasan for their sincere and dedicated efforts in bringing greater visibility and impact of SPBB.

### **Felicitations**

The chairman further appreciated the efforts of Dr. Kundan Kumar & Prof. Rajesh Mehrotra for organising National Virtual Conference -2020 and to Dr. Diwakar Singh & Dr. Ranjeet Ranjan Kumar for organisation of National Symposium -2022 at NAU, Navsari.

Besides this, chairman memorised the success of the first International Conference-2012 of the SPBB. He appreciated the efforts of Dr. P. Ananda Kumar, Organising Secretary & Dr. T. R. Sharma, Co-organising Secretary for their efforts in conducting and fund generation.

He also thanked all the past and present EC members for their continued clinching support for the growth of the Society. Besides this, he also advised to increase the numbers of zonal activities in different SAUs to bring the more visibility about biochemistry and biotechnology.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



**(Aruna Tyagi)**  
Secretary, SPBB