
MINUTES OF THE 39th ISRS ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

The 39th AGBM was held on December 05, 2012 between 1830-1930 hours during the 32nd Annual Convention of ISRS & ISG along with the National Symposium on “Space Technology for Food & Environmental Security” held at NASC Campus, DPS Marg, New Delhi. A total of 75 members attended the 39th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM).

Agenda item-1 Welcome remarks by First Vice president, ISRS

- Dr. V.K. Dadhwal, President ISRS could not attend the meeting in view of his visit to China to represent ISRS as TC VIII President for the Joint Meeting of the ISPRS Council and Technical Commission Presidents. Therefore, Dr. DRM Samudraiah, First Vice president of ISRS presided over the meeting. He welcomed all the ISRS members present during the AGM. He thanked all the Patron/Sustaining and Life members for their constant support during the period 2011-12. He further complimented the organizers of National Symposium on “Space Technology for Food & Environmental Security” organized during December 5-7, 2012 for arrangements made and hence successfully organizing the Symposium and Annual Convention of ISRS.

Agenda item-2 Confirmation of Proceedings of 38th AGM & ISRS Annual Report 2012 by Secretary, ISRS

- The Proceedings of 38th AGM held at Bhopal during the 31st Annual Convention and National Symposium on “Empowering Rural India through Space Technology” organized at Madhya Pradesh Council of Science & Technology, Vigyan Bhavan, Nehru Nagar, Bhopal (November 9-11, 2011), published in Journal of ISRS, Vol. 39 No. 4, Dec 2011 were discussed, accepted by Dr. S.K. Saha, seconded by Mrs. Parul Patel were confirmed.

ISRS Annual Report

Secretary ISRS presented the Annual Report of the society for the year 2011-2012 (period of November 2011 till November 2012). The Detailed Report is given in Annexure I. It is also proposed to be published as part of forthcoming December issue of JISRS i.e. Vol. 40 (No. 4).

The main highlights of the annual report are detailed below:

- There is an increase of 141 Life members. Three Fellowships were awarded. Two Patron members were added during the period of year 2011-12. Presently total number of members of the Society is 4258.
- Conducting the Annual Convention and National Symposium on “Space Technology for Food & Environmental Security” at New Delhi during December 5-7, 2012.
- JISRS has become truly international by virtue of its joint publication with internationally reputed technical journal publisher “Springer”. It has impact factor of 0.285 as assessed recently. Efforts are made to improve the journal articles with strict adherence to high quality of papers through peer reviewing procedures.
- ISRS supported ISPRS in its objectives by promoting international co-operation, co-ordination and advancement of Geo-spatial technology. Dr. R.R. Navalgund, Vikram Sarabhai Distinguished Professor, ISRO delivered the plenary talk on “Earth Observation in Early Warning Systems” on August 31, 2012 during ISPRS Congress. Dr. V.K. Dadhwal, President ISRS & Director NRSC has been elected as President of TC VIII of ISPRS for the term 2012-16.

- ISRS has also become member of Asian Association of Remote Sensing (AARS).
- Dr. R.R. Navalgund, Vikram Sarabhai Distinguished Professor, ISRO delivered 22nd Vikram Sarabhai Memorial Lecture on the topic entitled “Harnessing Space Technology for Sustainable Agriculture” on December 5, 2012 at New Delhi.
- As per the tradition, this year also ISRS recognized eminent personalities for the several Awards viz. Bhaskara Award, Satish Dhawan Award, National Geo-spatial Award for Excellence, P.R. Pisharoty Award, Indian National Geo-spatial Award, ISRS Best Chapter Award, President’s Appreciation Award, Best Paper published in JISRS, SDI Best paper published in JISRS.
- Several Chapters organized Popular Lectures, Celebration of National Remote Sensing Day, Science Day, Environmental Day, GIS Day, Exhibitions, Regional Workshops etc.
- Election for New Executive Council of ISRS for the period 2012-2014 was held in December 2011.

Points Discussed under Agenda 2 are as follow:

- 1 ISRS should be more active in ACRS activities.
- 2 It is asked to explain the reason of withdrawing for bidding of ISPRS Congress for the year 2016. Secretary, ISRS has briefed the members that due to austerity measures ISPRS Congress 2016 was withdrawn. Prior information was sent to ISPRS Congress president for the above matter.
- 3 It is recommended that all EC members should be available during AGM. Name of all EC members should be mentioned in Annual Report.
- 4 It is suggested that house should be appraised about next Symposium. Secretary, ISRS has informed that next Symposium will be held at Vishakhapatnam, AP. Dr. K. Nageshwar Rao has briefed the members about the plans and venue for the next symposium.
- 5 One of the members raised a query that there are few members who are not the part of any chapter. Therefore it was informed that the limit of chapter members should be within 40 km from chapter headquarters. However, if any member wants to be associated with the specific chapter, he should be welcomed.
- 6 Chapters should be encouraged to generate funds through various activities.
- 7 One of the Senior member raised the issue related to concession for Senior citizen in Seminars. It is already implemented in national Symposium by offering concessional registration fee for Senior citizens.
- 8 As ISRS and ISG are jointly organizing Annual Conventions and National Symposium hence, the minimum common programme should be worked out so that the objectives of both the societies should be realized.
- 9 ISRS and ISG should jointly decide the basic theme of the Symposium.
- 10 It was pointed out that the ISPRS activities highlighted in the Annual Report presently consist of entire block period of 2008-12. However, only last year achievement should only be highlighted in the annual report. Secretary, ISRS is asked to revise the annual report as mentioned above.
- 11 It is recommended that minutes of EC Meetings should be available on the website so that any member can browse and access it.
- 12 Award categories should be verified.
- 13 Newsletter of Ahmedabad Chapter should be uploaded in ISRS website.
- 14 It is recommended that accreditation by ISRS for different training programme/education programme may be decided through a subcommittee which can look into the modalities and feasibility whether it is viable and sustainable.
- 15 One of the member asked about the privilege of a life member. Hence it is informed that all the details are available on ISRS website (www.isrsindia.in).

- 16 Address profile and mailing list of ISRS members should be updated regularly.
- 17 Concurrence should be taken for e-access of journal from each member.
- 18 A separate corpus fund should be made available for the ISPRS commission activities.

Agenda item - 3 Presentation of Audit Report for 2011-2012 by Treasurer, ISRS

Dr. Sameer Saran, Treasurer presented the Audit Report for the year 2011-12. Total asset of ISRS is Rs. 2.19 Crore. The fix deposits available with the banks are 1.87 crores. While Rs. 10 lakhs were kept for future activities of ISRS. The audit report acceptance was proposed by Dr. R.R Navalgund and Seconded by Dr. J.S. Parihar. The detailed audit report is available in Annexure II.

Agenda item - 4 Chapter activities by Vice President, ISRS

- It is informed that out of 23 chapters, 17 chapters are active, however effort should be made to re-activate the remaining 6 chapters, which may be achieved through re-election as well as sensitization of member of that particular chapter. The detailed chapter activity report is given Annexure 1

Agenda item - 5 Any other Point

- Dr. Y.V.N. Krishnamurthy has proposed the ISRS Symposium for 2016 should be given to Dehradun chapter. It will be clubbed with 50 year celebration of IIRS Dehradun.
- Dr. R.R. Navalgund appreciated the effort of current EC members which was applauded by all the members.

Agenda item - 6 Vote of thanks

- Vice President, ISRS presented vote of thanks. He expressed his thanks to Dr. V.K. Dadhwal, President, ISRS, Dr. R.R. Navalgund, Ex-Officio member, ISRS EC, and all other Executive Council Members for their dedicated contribution. The editorial board of JISRS, Chapter representatives and various organizations were acknowledged for their valuable cooperation and support. He also thanked the local organizers and thanked all members present for their active participation..

Approved by
Dr. V.K. Dadhwal
President, ISRS

Verified by
Dr. D.R.M. Samudraiah
Vice President, ISRS

Prepared by
Dr. S.P. Aggarwal
Secretary, ISRS