

**ASSOCIATION OF FOOD SCIENTISTS AND TECHNOLOGISTS (INDIA)**  
**CSIR – CFTRI Campus, Mysuru – 570 020**  
**www.afsti.org**

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Minutes of the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM) held on 09<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at IFTTC Auditorium, CSIR – CFTRI Campus, Mysuru at 6:30 pm. **158** members participated in the meeting.

**1. Welcome**

Dr. Suresh D Sakhare, Honorary Secretary, welcomed all the members and welcomed all present CEC members on the dais to the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting.

**2. Minutes of previous AGBM**

The Hon. Secretary took the agenda forward and read the minutes of the previous AGBM meeting and mentioned that the minutes of the meeting was circulated to the members. Since no comments were received, he requested the AGBM to approve.

Dr. Prabodh Halde proposed to approve the minutes and Dr. SS Ghonkrokta seconded the same.

**3. Secretary's Report (annual reports from Headquarters & Chapters)**

Honorary Secretary, Dr. Sakhare, apprised the AGBM that the annual report had been circulated to the members. He proceeded to mention highlights of the major activities undertaken by the current Central Executive Committee (CEC) throughout the year. The highlights mentioned are as below -

- a) The CEC held four meetings during the year to discuss a range of agendas focused on strengthening the activities of AFST(I). These deliberations resulted in the formulation and implementation of several important decisions.
- b) The current membership base of AFST(I) is reported to be 5127, with 4189 individuals holding life membership.
- c) Promotional Activities for 9<sup>th</sup> IFCoN 2023
  - The Logo 9<sup>th</sup> IFCoN 2023 was unveiled in a curtain raiser event organized at the ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (ICAR-CIFE), Mumbai.
  - An Awareness Programme about AFST(I) was conducted at NIFTEM Kundli, with MTech and PhD students along with faculty members in the audience.
  - The IFCoN App was launched in another curtain raiser event organized at the CSIR – Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI), Mysuru.

- The IFCoN was also showcased through a curtain raiser event in the SET-FEST Conference conducted by the AFSTI-Lucknow chapter held at the CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow.
  - The programs of IFCoN were also showcased in another curtain raiser event along with Networking Meet dinner in association with AFSTI-Hyderabad chapter, which took place at ITC Kakatiya, Hyderabad.
  - Promotional Activities were organized at The Southern India Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Indian Chamber Buildings, Chennai in association with the AFSTI-Chennai chapter.
  - Promotional Activities in connection with IFCoN were also carried out during the National Conference on Millet processing, value addition, safety, and food sustainability conducted by SRM Institute of Science & Technology, Kattankulathur, Tamil Nadu
  - The new journal dealing with cereal sciences by the name Grain Science & Technology was also launched during inauguration of IFCoN
- d) Besides the above, the CEC also conducted various memorial lectures and events in which IFCoN was also showcased. The memorial lectures conducted were as follows -

#### **Dr B L Amla Memorial Lecture**

- Title of the lecture : “Food Science: Key Imperatives for Consumer Products”
- Speaker: Dr. Suresh Ramamurthi, Chief Scientist and Head Corporate Research, ITC Life Sciences and Technology Centre, Bangalore.
- Location: Hotel Southern Star, Mysuru

#### **Sri G C P Rangarao Memorial Lecture**

- Title of the lecture : “Overview of food processing industries and commercial aspects of food packaging”
- Speaker: Mr. R. Ramkuttu, Managing Director, Niswin Foods Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore.
- Location: Dept. Food Science & Nutrition, Dr. NGP Arts and Science College, Coimbatore

#### **Prof JV Bhatt Memorial-Lecture**

- Title of the lecture : “Characterization and Therapeutic Applications of Phycobiliproteins from Cyanobacteria”
- Speaker: Prof. Datta Madamwar, Scientific Advisor, P.D Patel Institute of Applied Science, Charotar University of Science and Technology, Changa, Gujarat.
- Location: SH Zaidi Auditorium, CSIR-IITR Lucknow

### **Dr H A B Parpia Memorial Lecture & Prof. MS Swaminathan Padma Awardee Lecture**

- Title of the lecture: “FUSION of Agriculture, Food Science, Innovations with Industries for India's Leadership in Sustainable Future Food & Nutrition Security”
- Speaker: Padmashri Dr. V Prakash, Fmr Director, CSIR-CFTRI, Mysuru @IFCoN 2023
- Location: IFTTC Auditorium, CSIR-CFTRI Campus, Mysuru

Dr Warriar endorsed the Secretary's report and the same was seconded by several members.

#### **4. Treasurer's report and audited statement of accounts:**

Honorary Treasurer, Dr. Tanaji G Kudre, presented the Treasurer's report and proposed the budget for the year 2023-24 and also for 2024-25. He also presented the consolidated financial statement. During the adoption of treasurer's report, the following were discussed -

- HQ's PAN number will be used for opening bank accounts by all the chapters.
- Hon. Secretary briefed about the reactivation of the AFST(I) Delhi Chapter. Communication was made twice towards reactivation of bank account and chapter. Also interacted with necessary details provided by the HQ for the reactivation.
- One of the members suggested to mention “Schedule - 4: Under Property, Plant & Equipment: Civil Construction for the amount of Rs.40,64,075/-“ as “Deposit kept for civil construction” under **Assets**.
- Accounting should be made separately towards Expenditure of Accommodation, Travel and not be shown as Incidental Expenses in future.
- During the discussion, Auditor was permitted by the Chair to mention some relevant action that needs to be taken by the chapters. The Auditor requested that all chapters need to send their Chapter's Audited statement. The society will come under NGO section 11.
- The Hon' Secretary mentioned that 33 chapters provided audited reports in time which is a first in the history of AFSTI. The AGBM recorded its appreciation for the CEC to have achieved this.

Honorary Treasurer sought the report to be adopted. Prof. Shyamsundar proposed for its adoption and Mr Umesh Kamble seconded the same.

#### **5. Appointment of Auditor & fixing the remuneration:**

The Honorary Treasurer presented the willingness letter received from the auditor to continue to be the auditor for both AFST(I) and AFST(I) Edu. & Pub. Trust accounts. The members reached a consensus to retain the services of the current auditor, following the standard practice of authorizing CEC to increase his remuneration by 8%.

## **6. Announcement of Election Results:**

The Election Returning Officer, Mr B Vasu, announced the Election results which was as follows -

Dr. Aashitosh Ashok Inamdar	President - Designate
Dr. Suresh P V	Vice President - HQ
Dr. Damodaran Nambudiri D	Vice President, Cochin
Dr. Geevarghese P I	Vice President, Thrissur
Ms. Subhaprada Nishtala	Vice President, Mumbai
Dr. Chidanand D V	Vice President, Thanjavur
Mr. Basavaraja Mundalamani	Honorary Joint Secretary
Dr. Neelakanteshwar Patil K	Honorary Treasurer

The AGBM and the CEC on the dias congratulated the candidates whose names were declared as office bearers.

## **7. Induction of President-Designate as President and Joint Secretary as Secretary**

During the induction ceremony, the following individuals were officially appointed to their respective positions:

- President : Dr. Nilesh S Amritkar
- Honorary Secretary: Dr. Naveen Shivanna
- Honorary Treasurer: Dr. Neelakanteshwar Patil K
- Additionally, all other incoming office bearers assumed their designated roles.

An oath-taking ceremony followed, during which all newly appointed office bearers pledged to fulfill their responsibilities. The oath was administered by Dr. Radhakrishna, a Senior Life Member.

The president of AFSTI chairing the AGBM, Dr. N Bhaskar, extended congratulations to the incoming office bearers and expressed gratitude to CEC members for their support and successful execution of activities throughout the year.

## **8. Amendment to the bye-laws**

Amendments to constitution/bye-laws proposed in the Special General Body meeting were placed before the AGBM for adoption. The same was proposed by Dr. Prabodh Halde and seconded by Dr. Shekar Naik

## **9. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair**

The Honorary Secretary informed the members that Dr. V Baskaran, former president of AFST(I) and AFSTI fellow, had communicated via email, requesting the Central Executive Committee

(CEC) to address the following points in the upcoming Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM) in 2023:

**a) Matter related to new site purchased and expenses related to the site, including sale deed, legal issues & Matter related to the building committee.**

The Honorary Secretary then provided details about the recently acquired site, including the additional amount paid online to MUDA. Furthermore, it was noted that the site has been successfully registered in the name of the Honorary Secretary, AFST(I), Mysuru.

Dr. Aashitosh A Inamdar, the Convener of the Diamond Jubilee Building Committee (DJBC), provided clarification on the previously mentioned points. President AFSTI and Co-Chairman of the DJBC, Dr Bhaskar, informed the members that the new site is now 74 square meters larger than the original site, and the difference amount has been paid to MUDA through an online transaction.

One of the members suggested that the name Permanent Building Committee be changed to Building Committee or Diamond Jubilee Building Committee. The president clarified that in fact when it was first constituted in 2013 it was Diamond Jubilee Building Committee only and because of iterations over the years the word permanent might have got inserted. He also mentioned that once the building is constructed & in place, the DJBC will cease to exist.

The matter was proposed by Prof. Shekar Naik and seconded by Dr. Abdul Rasheed. Other members congratulated and acknowledged Dr. Aashitosh A Inamdar for his initiative and dedicated work in acquiring the site for AFST(I).

Members of the house suggested that, moving forward, the focus should be on the optimal utilization of the site for the development of AFST(I). The members collectively agreed that the site issue would not be revisited for any further discussions.

**b) Regarding the procedure adopted for appointing Chief Editor, IFI and office staffs.**

The CEC informed that the above-mentioned point is already discussed and answered in two AGBMs and minutes of the meeting has been done and circulated.

**c) Link to attend AGBM online**

One of the members, Dr V Baskaran, sought the CEC to send an online link to all members of AFST(I) for easy participation in the Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM). Dr. Bhaskar N, the President of AFSTI, stated that the details of how to facilitate this process will be determined by the incoming CEC and appropriate action as deemed fit will be taken.

**d) Student Welfare Committee**

One of the student member, requested CEC to consider opening a Student Welfare Committee and having online meetings.

**e) Internationalization of AFSTI**

Dr. Prakash (Padmashree awardee, Fmr. Director & Fellow of AFSTI), suggested that AFST(I) should consider establishing chapters outside India. The vision is to bring together members from East, West, North, South, and Central India, fostering collaboration among industry, academia, regulators, and consumers.

Dr. N Bhaskar, the President of AFST(I), expressed gratitude to Dr. Alok K Srivastava, Immediate Past President, Dr. Nandini P Shetty, Immediate Past Secretary, and Vice Presidents of all chapters (Dr. Jagan Mohan, Dr. Jyothirmayi T, Dr. P K Nema, and Mr. Nilesh Lele) for their significant contributions to the organization. He thanked the entire Central Executive Committee (CEC) and the General body for their cooperation throughout the journey.

Dr. Bhaskar also extended his appreciation for the successful celebrations of the 9th IFCoN 2023. He emphasized that if guidelines are ever required, members can approach the CEC with suggestions for consideration during the Annual General Body Meeting (AGBM).

Dr. Nilesh S Amritkar, assuming the position of President AFST(I) thanked one and all and thanked Dr. M M Chitale who was a mentor, friend and philosopher & guide and Bhishma Pita Maha of AFST(I) Mumbai Chapter and taking blessings of all the Past Presidents of AFST(I) HQ and who were gathered in the meeting some of AFST(I) Chapters and senior members of AFST(I) (Dr. Warriar sir, Dr. Gondekar sir, Dr. Smita Lele madam, Dr. Prabodh S Halde, Dr. K D Yadav, Dr. Uday S Annapure) and mentioned that for the year 2024 it would be 66 years of our Association. Dr. Nilesh S Amritkar also mentioned about the sustainability of food and also informed that let us welcome new comers with a greater number of memberships from Food Science & Technology to join this wonderful association and build their careers and help the world for food safety, food standard and food security. Dr. Amritkar expressed gratitude to both incoming and outgoing Central Executive Committee (CEC) members for their contributions.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks by the Hon. Secretary AFST(I).

Sd/-  
Dr. Suresh D Sakhare  
Honorary Secretary, AFST(I)  
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