

Agricultural Economics Research Association (India)

Proceedings of 25th General Body Meeting

The 25th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of the Agricultural Economics Research Association (India) was held on 9th November 2017 at 12.30 AM at the National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM), Hyderabad, Telangana. Dr. P K Joshi, President of the Association, chaired the meeting and welcomed the members present at the AGM.

Before taking up the Agenda for discussion, the house was informed about the sad and sudden demise of Dr G P Reddy and Dr I J Singh. The members paid rich tributes to them for their contribution to AERA and the profession. The members observed two minute silence and prayed to the Almighty for giving peace to the departed souls.

The house was reconvened and the agenda items listed below were taken up for discussion.

Agenda item 1: To approve the minutes of the previous Annual General Body Meeting held on 17th December 2016 at Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Uttar Pradesh.

The minutes of the 24th Annual General Body meeting held on 17th December 2016 at Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Uttar Pradesh, were read and confirmed by the GB without any amendments.

Agenda item 2: To approve the Annual Report of AERA for the year 2016-17.

Dr. Suresh Pal, Secretary of the Association, presented the Annual Report for the financial year ending 2016-17. Regarding the membership of AERA, Dr Pal informed that it stood at 1098 comprising of 912 life members, 110 ordinary members, 120 institutional members and 32 honorary life members.

Regarding publication of the Journal, the Secretary informed that Jan-June 2017 Issue was despatched in May 2017 and July-Dec 2017 is in pipeline. Regarding conference issue, he informed that there was tremendous response from the authors and a record number of 158 papers were received for discussion at this Conference. For selection of full-length papers for this issue, a Review Committee of Dr PG Chengappa, Conference President, Dr K J Satyasai and Dr Raka Saxena was constituted. Based on the recommendations of this Review Committee, 24 papers have been published as full length papers and the rest were published in abstract form. An MoU has been signed with the Indian Journals for distribution of the journal with a revenue sharing of 40:60 for print and online and 50:50 for online publication. AERA is in touch with Sage publications regarding outsourcing of journal publication.

The Secretary informed the house that based on the information submitted to NAAS for revision of the rating, the rating of AERR has been improved to 5.9 which is highest in the series of journals being published by other professional societies. The number of articles submitted for publication in the journal is also rising fast. The Association in partnership with ISAE and other organizations shall organize conference of IAAE in 2021. The conference will be held in NASC complex Delhi.

The Secretary thanked the Executive Committee, Editorial Board and all the members. He expressed gratefulness to all the learned referees who gave their valuable time in going through the articles submitted to AERR for publication and Dr BS Aggarwal for language editing of the journal.

The members applauded the work carried out by the AERA and approved the Report unanimously.

Agenda item 3: To approve the audited account statement and Treasurer's Report of AERA for the year 2016-17.

Dr. Anjani Kumar, Treasurer of the Association, presented the Audit Report of the Association for the year ending 31 March 2017. It was informed that the Association incurred an expenditure of Rs 13.57 lakh against revenue of Rs 18.26 lakh in 2016-17. The members unanimously approved the report.

Agenda item 4: To approve the auditor for AERA for the financial year 2017-18.

The GB resolved to appoint M/s Sukhija & Associates as auditors for auditing of the accounts of AERA for the financial year 2017-18.

It was resolved that existing Axis Bank Account of AERA will be closed on the maturity of the existing fixed deposits latest by March 31, 2017. The balance amount will be transferred to the existing AERA account in Syndicate Bank. Till then, the account will continue to be operated by the existing signatories i.e. Dr. Mruthyunjaya (former Secretary of AERA) and/or Dr Praduman Kumar (former Treasurer of AERA). Further, the resolution was passed to open a new account in any Nationalised bank for the purpose of AERA Conference to be operated by any one of the signatory.

Agenda item 5: To approve Dr. R T Doshi Foundation Awards for 2016.

Dr. R. T. Doshi Foundation, Mumbai, has instituted two awards for the best research articles published in *Agricultural Economics Research Review* and for two best paper presentations made during the AERA Conference. The members thanked the Chairman and trustees of the Dr. R. T. Doshi Foundation for their continued support. The President distributed the certificates and prize money for the 2016 winners.

The President constituted a committee of Dr D K Marothia, Dr R S Deshpande and Dr Ganesh Kumar for evaluation of the articles published in *Agricultural Economics Research Review*, Volume 28 (2016) and the winners are as follows:

a) Best papers 2016

First: Avinash Kishore, (Pratap S Birthal), (P K Joshi), Tushaar Shah and Abhishek Saini, Patterns and Drivers of Dairy Development in India: Insights from Analysis of Household and District-level Data

Second: Surya Bhushan, TFP Growth of Wheat and Paddy in Post-Green Revolution Era in India: Parametric and Non-Parametric Analysis

() not eligible for award as per guidelines

b) Conference presentation 2017

First: Subash S P., Primary Income Sources of Agricultural Household in Rural India: Deciphering Meso-Micro Paradoxes using Hierarchical Analysis

Second: Amit Kumar Basantaray, Relationship between Crop Diversification and Farm Income in Odisha — An Empirical Analysis

Agenda item 6: To elect conference president (AERA Conference 2018)

The GB unanimously approved the name of Prof Ramesh Chand, Member NITI Aayog as the President-Elect for the 26th Conference in 2018.

Agenda item 7: Implementation of Dr. Uma Lele Mentorship Program

The GB approved the offer of Dr Uma Lele for mentorship of young Indian professionals. AERA is required to play a facilitating role in selection of Indian students/young professionals to participate in such mentorship programme. The offer and themes for each year will be published in one of the issues of AERR. The maximum age of the candidate should not be more than 35 years.

Agenda item 8: Institutionalization of Young Scientist Award.

The GB considered the recommendation of the Executive Committee and approved in principle the implementation of 'Young Scientist Award'. This shall be implemented from the year 2018. A Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr S S Acharya, is finalizing the proforma and guidelines for the award, which shall be put on the website and the nominations would be invited from the past and present Presidents of AERA along with the NAAS Fellows in Agricultural Economics.

Agenda item 9: To elect office bearers of AERA Executive Committee, 2018.

The item relating to election of Office Bearers of the Association was taken up considering the recommendations of the Executive Committee and discussion in AGM, the following were unanimously elected as Office Bearers of the Executive Committee of AERA and Members of Editorial Board of AERR for the year 2018.

Executive Committee for the year 2018

Position		Proposed by	Seconded by
President	Dr. P K Joshi	To continue	
Vice Presidents	Dr. R K P Singh	To continue	
	Dr S Srinivas	By virtue of being organizing secretary of the conference	
Secretary	Dr. Suresh Pal	To continue	
Treasurer	Dr. Anjani Kumar	To continue	
Joint Secretaries	Dr. Raka Saxena	To continue	
	Dr. V R Kiresur		
Members	Dr. S A Wani	Dr M H Wani	Dr Murtuja Khan
	Dr. Subhashish Mondal	Dr D Birdhan	Dr. P S Birthal
	Dr. B Nirmala	Dr Srinivas	Dr Ranjit Kumar
	Dr. N S Manohar	Dr Puroshottam Sharma	Dr P C Meena

Agenda item 10: To elect the Editorial Board, 2018

The item relating to election of the Members of Editorial Board for the *Agricultural Economics Research Review* was taken up. The GB unanimously elected the below indicated Editorial Board for the year 2018.

Editorial Board

Dr. P Kumar	Chairman
Dr. Pratap S. Birthal	Chief Editor
Dr. P G Chengappa	Member
Dr. Ashok Mishra	Member
Dr. Seema Bathla	Member
Dr. Madhur Gautam	Member
Dr. Girish K. Jha	Member
Dr. Jeevika Weerahewa	Member
Dr. Surbhi Mittal	Member
Dr. Gopinath Munisamy	Member
Dr. N. Chandrasekhara Rao	Member
Dr. Karl M. Rich	Member
Dr. Devesh Roy	Member
Dr. Naveen P. Singh	Member
Dr. Niti Mehta	Member
Dr. Mruthyunjaya	Member
Dr. Chandan Hazarika	Member
Dr. M. Krishnan	Member

Agenda item 11: Venue for the Next AERA Conference

The offer of the Director, NDRI, to host the 26th AERA Conference was considered and the house decided to host the conference at NDRI Karnal. The dates of conference will be finalized soon in consultation with NDRI. The broad topic of the conference shall be "Agriculture and Sustainable Development Goals." Dr Seema Bathla was requested to develop the conference outline

Agenda item 12: Conference of International Association of Agricultural Economists 2021

The GB decided that 2021 IAAE Conference will be hosted by ISAE, AERA, IGIDR and IFPRI. For effective organization, a local organising committee has been constituted. The members will soon meet with DG, ICAR and President, NAAS for their partnership in the Conference.

Agenda item 13: Acknowledgements

- (i) The GB expressed grateful thanks to NAARM, Hyderabad for hosting the 25th Annual Conference, especially to Dr Ch. Srinivasa Rao, Director, NAARM, and Dr K Srinivasan, Organizing Secretary and other staff members & students for making excellent arrangements. The GB also expressed thanks to MANAGE, Hyderabad for co-hosting the 25th Annual Conference, especially to Dr Usha Rani, Director General , MANAGE and Dr A Amrendra Reddy, Director for excellent arrangements.
- (ii) The GB expressed thanks to Dr. P. G Chengappa, former ICAR National Professor and Vice-Chancellor UAS Bangalore for presiding over the conference and for delivering the Presidential Address. Thanks are also due to Shri S N Reddy, Vice Chairman, State Planning Board, Govt of Telangana chief guest, for his inaugural address.
- (iii) The GB thanked IFPRI for co-sponsoring the special session on 'Policy Reforms in Indian Agriculture'.
- (iv) The Association thanked Dr Mahendra Dev for delivering Dr G K Chadha memorial lecture and Dr S S Acharya and Dr Madhur Gautam for delivering a Silver Jubilee Special Lecture.

- (v) Thanks are also due to the jury members for judging the paper presentations and evaluating the papers published in AERR 2017.
- (vi) The GB thanked the ICAR for its continuous funding support for publishing regular issues of Agricultural Economics Research Review for the year 2017.
- (vii) The GB also thanked the NABARD for their continuing support by providing grant to AERA for publishing proceedings of the 25th Annual Conference.
- (viii) The GB thanked the outgoing Members of both Executive Committee of AERA and Editorial Board of AERR for the year 2017. The GB also placed on record the excellent academic services rendered by the referees in reviewing the papers submitted to AERR for publication.
- (ix) The GB resolved to thank all the chairpersons and rapporteurs for ably conducting the technical sessions and preparation of the recommendations. Thanks are also due to the paper presenters and NAARM students.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Secretary