

Indian Academy of Neurosciences
Minutes of the General Body Meeting held at
BRIC- RGCB, Thiruvananthapuram on Friday; October 31, 2025

The meeting of the General Body (GB) of Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN) was held on Friday; October 31, 2025 during the 43rd Annual Conference of IAN hosted by BRIC-Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (RGCB), Thiruvananthapuram. The meeting was presided over by Dr Vinay Kumar Khanna, President, IAN and conducted by Dr Pankaj Seth, Secretary HQ. As the quorum was not complete, the meeting was adjourned and started after that. The list of members present during the meeting is enclosed (Annexure – I).

The President welcomed the members and thanked them for attending the meeting. The meeting proceeded as per the agenda,

1. Dr Pankaj Seth, Secretary Headquarter informed that the minutes of the last GB meeting held on Wednesday; November 13, 2024 at National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore were circulated and no query or observation was received. The minutes were confirmed.
2. Dr. Subhas C Biswas, General Secretary and Dr Pankaj Seth, Secretary Headquarter of the Indian Academy of Neurosciences (IAN), briefed members on different activities held under the auspices of local chapters during the year. The members were apprised of the IBRO sponsored schools organized at Mohanlal Sukhadia Univeristy, Udaipur and at the Amity Institute of Neuropsychology and Neurosciences, Amity University, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh. Dr Biswas informed that both the events attended by early-career researchers were organized successfully. Both IBRO schools had distinguished faculty from India and abroad. He said that these IBRO schools were good platforms for the young researchers to learn key techniques and gain insights into niche research areas of neurosciences. Besides, he acknowledged IBRO to support these schools to help in promoting the neuroscience research in country. Appreciating the quality research in neuroscience being pursued at different centres/institutes in the country, Dr Biswas emphasized the importance of maintaining high ethical standards in research. He suggested that fundamental research being pursued should be relevant to the society at large. In his brief report, Dr Biswas appreciated the long association of IAN with Japanese Neuroscience Society (JNS) and continuous support to the young neuroscientists from India for attending their annual conferences. He further acknowledged the global and regional neuroscience societies including IBRO, FAONS, APSN for their support to advance neuroscience in the country and Asian region.
3. Dr. Jackson James, the organizing secretary thanked the national and international delegates for attending the 43rd annual conference of IAN (IAN - 2025) hosted by BRIC-Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Thiruvananthapuram. In his brief report, he informed the members around 500 delegates attended the conference. He shared that

the four-day event featured pre-conference workshops, orations, plenary lectures, symposia, invited and short talks, panel discussions, along with two Young Scientist Colloquiums. He mentioned that around 200 students, postdoctoral fellows, and early-career researchers presented papers in the Poster Session. The Organizing Secretary was happy to share that most of the speakers in scientific sessions were outstanding researchers and stayed for all 4 days. It was a good opportunity for young researchers for networking and developing collaboration in future. Expressing gratitude to the leadership of BRIC-Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RGCB), Thiruvananthapuram, national and international funding agencies and other sponsors for their generous support for IAN-2025, Dr Jackson also acknowledged his colleagues and volunteers for their untiring help and support for the success of IAN - 2025. The efforts of the organizing secretary and his team were appreciated by the members with applause.

4. Dr Sourav Banerjee, Treasurer, Indian Academy of Neurosciences presented the statement of accounts duly audited by the Chartered Accountant. He informed the GB about the expenditure, savings, induction of new Life and Associate Members during the year. He further informed that payment of dues towards affiliation fee of IBRO has been settled up to the year 2026. Further, the affiliation fee of IAN with FAONS will be settled once the invoice is received from FAONS.

The GB observed that the Academy is in good financial state and has maintained its assets well. The Treasurer report was approved by the GB with appreciation to the Treasurer for maintaining IAN accounts efficiently.

5. Presenting the Editor's report, Dr Akshay Anand, Chief Editor stated that the Annals of Neurosciences (AON), the official journal of IAN continues to serve as an effective platform for sharing the latest research and developments in neuroscience. He informed that the main focus of the journal is to maintain its academic quality by publishing four well-curated issues, in line with the high standards set by prominent indexing agencies such as PubMed in 2025. He informed that 293 manuscripts have been submitted in 2025. After thorough peer-review process 61 were rejected. Discussing the financial aspects, the Chief Editor informed that a sum of INR 3,92,163/34 p has been received by IAN as APC royalties from SAGE during 2024 - 2025. He was happy to share that the citations of the papers published in the AON have increased and it may complement to increase the IF in the coming time.

He further informed that a sub-committee has been formed by the EC to discuss on the issues especially future renewal of contract/agreement with the publisher. The sub-committee would negotiate to add a supplement issue to the contract, where the abstracts of the IAN annual meetings may be published at no additional or discounted cost to IAN and better royalty percentage for the academy in future. A committee with following members formed by the EC was approved by the GB,

Dr Vinay Kumar Khanna, Dr Subrata Sinha, Dr IK Patro, Dr Akshay Anand, Dr Krishna Sony, Dr Sourav Banerjee, Dr Pankaj Seth.

Acknowledging the support of the members of the Editorial Board, Dr Akshay Anand thanked Dr Krishna K. Sony in ensuring the timely publication of the journal. He also appealed the members to contribute good research papers and reviews. The GB appreciated the efforts of both Dr Akshay Anand and Dr Krishna K. Sony with applause.

6. (i). The recommendations of the EC to confer IAN-BK Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award on Dr BN Gangadhar, Former Director, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore and IAN-PN Tandon Oration on Dr. Suvarna Alladi, National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore were approved by the GB. The GB also approved that IAN-SS Parmar Oration and IAN-KT Shetty Memorial Oration be conferred on Dr Ratna Sircar, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, NY, USA, and Dr Kamla Prasad Mishra, Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences-DRDO, New Delhi respectively.

Further, the GB approved the recommendation of the EC for electing Dr Usha Rajjama (Inter University Centre for Biomedical Research & Super Speciality Hospital, Kottayam), Dr Mehdi H Shahi (Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh) and Dr Thomas Gregor Issac (Centre for Brain Research, IISc, Bangalore) as Fellows of Indian Academy of Neurosciences in 2025.

- (ii) The GB was informed that out of three papers received for IAN-Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize, the paper entitled Structural and functional insights into the nuclear role of Parkinson's disease-associated α -synuclein as a histone chaperone by Sneha Jos, Department of Biophysics, National Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences, (NIMHANS), Bangalore, India published in Communications Biology received highest scores from the Reviewers and considered for the prize.
- (iii). The GB approved the recommendation of EC to increase number of IAN travel awards to 06 from 04 from 2026 in view of large number of requests received from students / young researchers to support their travel. The GB was further informed that the EC recommended to increase the amount of travel fellowships from INR 5000/- to INR 10,000/- due to enhanced cost of travel tickets with the time. It was decided that additional expenditure of INR 40,000/- due to increase in the number and amount of IAN Travel Fellowships may be met out of interest from IAN assets invested in the bank.

The GB was informed that a request will be sent to the Nath Foundation to increase the amount of Lalita and Ravindra Nath Travel Fellowship from INR 5,000/- to INR 10,000/- as discussed in the EC meeting. If the Nath Foundation agrees, the amount of Lalita and Ravindra Nath Travel Fellowship will also be increased from INR 5,000/- to INR 10,000/-. The GB approved the proposal to increase the amount of travel fellowships to support deserving young researchers from 2026 onwards.

- (vi). The observations and recommendations of the Chartered Accountant that earnings out of interest should be effectively utilized for promotion of neuroscience as IAN is a non-profit

organization, were shared with the GB. The recommendation of the EC that part of funds generated through interest income may be used to support the organizers of the annual meetings with a cap up to INR 3.00 lakhs depending on the availability of funds in each financial year. It was further mentioned that this support would be in addition to the funds already earmarked for orations, awards and travel fellowships etc. These efforts in the past have helped in promoting greater national and international participation in IAN meetings. The GB unanimously approved the proposal. The recommendation that this support may be started from the year 2025 was also approved by the GB.

7. The GB was informed that lectures, symposia, and hands-on workshops were conducted under the auspices of local chapters of IAN at Bangalore, Delhi-NCR, Lucknow and Kolkata. The members were happy to note that IAN-IBRO Global Neuroscience Advocacy activities were organized at AIIMS, New Delhi under the auspices of IAN-NCR Chapter in September 2025. Further, the members were encouraged to have IAN-IBRO Global Neuroscience Advocacy activities through its chapters or institutes. The GB was informed that the plan of activities to be undertaken by the members may be submitted to the Secretary Headquarter in case any support is required from IAN. These proposals will be reviewed by the academic committee and a financial support up to INR 50,000/- may be provided by IAN once the proposals are approved. Agreeing with the proposal, the GB also approved that the funds will be released on submission of reports after successful completion of the programs.

Further, the GB was happy to note that the Asian Oceanic Congress of Child Neurology (AOCCN) invited IAN to have a symposium during the 17th Congress of AOCCN-2025 at New Delhi from September 17 - 20, 2025. Appreciating the efforts, the GB recommended to partner with other international neuroscience associations and holding more workshops to train young researchers.

8. The GB was informed that the proposal to host the XLIV Annual Conference of IAN in 2026 by BRIC-NBRC, Manesar was approved earlier. The dates of the conference will be decided and informed soon. The GB was further informed that proposals to host the XLV annual conference in 2027 were received from Dr. Mehdi H Shahi, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh and Dr Pallab Bhattacharya, NIPER, Ahmedabad. The GB approved the recommendation of the EC that decision on venues for 2027 be taken at a later date once more bids to host the meeting are received.
9. The suggestions of the EC to form the Executive Committee for 2026 was approved by the GB (Annexure – II).

The Secretary HQ thanked the Organizing Secretary and his team for their efforts for successfully conducting the annual meeting. He also requested to convey the message to the leadership and administration of the BRIC-RGCB for their support.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

**General Body Meeting****Wednesday, October 31, 2025****XLIII Annual Meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences
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63	Anirban Basu (LB-24)	NBRC, Manesar

Indian Academy of Neurosciences

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