



Neurosciences Newsletter

House Magazine of
INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES

(Registered Under Societies Registration Act XXI 1860 Regn. No. 79106)



MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

I express my sincere gratitude to all members of the IAN, particularly executive committee, for electing me as the President. I am grateful to all my predecessors and senior members who have nurtured the Academy with their enlightened leadership. I am conscious of the high honor bestowed on me by the largest body of neuroscientists in the country and the huge responsibility associated with it. During three years term, we have many plans to strengthen the activities of the Academy. I sincerely hope that with the guidance, advice and cooperation from all the members, we would be able to fulfill these expectations.

During the 29th Annual meeting of the Academy organized by DIPAS at New Delhi, many recommendations have been made. We are trying to approach different funding agencies for its implementation. The Government is thinking favorably to support neuroscience education and research during its XII five year plan. So this is right time when we can make sincere joint efforts to achieve our objectives. We wish to activate the existing chapters of IAN and establish more new chapters to promote neuroscience activities. Let us make a membership drive and enroll more new members. We need more clinicians to join the Academy so that there can be close collaboration between clinical and basic neuroscientists. For this endeavor, I request cooperation from all members and appeal them to organize local scientific and public participation programs to promote scientific interaction and public awareness. I would also request everyone to contribute research papers for publication in Annals of Neurosciences and inform us about the activities and recognitions received so that they can be included in the Academy newsletter.

The first announcement has been made for the 30th Annual Conference of the Academy. Please visit the website for more details and participate actively in scientific deliberations. I invite all members to send us their suggestions on activities that IAN can take up and appeal them to come forward to strengthen neuroscience in the country.

With warm greetings and best wishes,

January 27, 2012.

Mahendra K. Thakur
President, Indian Academy of Neurosciences
Email: <mktian2007@gmail.com>

REPORT

January 27, 2012.

Dear Friends,

The XXIX annual conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences organized at the VP Chest Institute, New Delhi from October 30 - November 1, 2011 by Dr (Ms). Shashi Bala Singh, Director, Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences was a reflection of the quality research in neuroscience being taken up by various research institutions and universities in the country. The theme, *Translation of knowledge into clinical practices* was aptly selected by the organizers to highlight the need of taking forward the experimental research into reality. The scientific strengths showcased by the Indian participants were acknowledged by the overseas participants. The conference was well attended and had a total of twelve symposia. Besides, plenary lectures, oral and poster sessions, orations and young scientist colloquia stimulated the neurons of the participants. The conference was followed by a Post-conference workshop on Neuroinformatics at the National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, co-sponsored by the International Neuroinformatics Co-ordinating Facility.



Vinay K. Khanna

The Indian Academy of Neurosciences continues to promote neuroscience in the country bringing basic and clinical scientists together and bridging various gaps. The Academy has grown to be the largest body of neuroscientists in the country and aims to cross the 1000 members mark by 2013. Although neuroscience is gaining new heights, there are many challenges before the neuroscientists with the increasing incidences of neuropsychiatric and neurotoxicological disorders. Young researchers may join hands in drawing up suitable projects to resolve several issues. The premier scientific agencies of the country including the Department of Biotechnology have formulated a task force for funding the cutting-edge research and nurture novel ideas in the area of basic and clinical neurosciences. Further, like previous years, to promote awareness of neuropsychiatric disorders among the masses and motivate school / college children to take up neuroscience research in the country, the National Brain Research Centre, Manesar will conduct various activities as a part of Brain Awareness Week at various cities. We request you to come forward and help us in this endeavour.



Pankaj Seth

To continue to move forward with the current trends in neuroscience, we look forward to your presence in large numbers to share your research findings with other neuroscientists from India and abroad at the XXX annual conference of the Academy at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar from October 28 – 30, 2012. Proposals for holding symposia during the conference at Amritsar, nominations for electing fellows and executive members are invited. You may send the proposal / nominations before the last date. Also, proposals for holding the XXXI conference of the Academy are welcome. With this, we request you to forward information on your achievements/ honours/awards for inclusion in the next issue of the Newsletter and on the IAN website. Change(s) in address/emails, if any, may be informed to Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Treasurer (aka33@rediffmail.com) of the Academy to update in the Membership Directory.

With sincere thanks to all the members for continued support.

Vinay K. Khanna
Secretary HQ, IAN
Email : <vkkhanna1@gmail.com>

Pankaj Seth
General Secretary, IAN
Email : <pseth@nbrc.ac.in>

Congratulations !!



Professor Mahdi Hasan, one of the founders of the Indian Academy of Neurosciences has been honoured with the Padma Shri for his outstanding contributions in Medicine-Anatomy. A CME on Recent Advances in Alzheimer's Disease was also organized on December 3, 2011 at the Scientific Convention Centre, CSM Medical University UP, Lucknow to felicitate him on completing 75 glorious years.

Professor R. Nath Memorial Travel Award – 2011

Christofer Thomos, Department of Neurophysiology, National Institute of Mental Health & Neuroscience Hosur Road, Bangalore – 560 029, Email: christomchristy@gmail.com

Pritha Bhomick, Department of Biochemistry, 244 B, AJC Bose Road, IPGIMER, Kolkata – 700 020, Email: prithabhowmick@gmail.com

Rajesh S Yadav, Developmental Toxicology Division, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Post Box No. 80, Lucknow – 226 001, Email: razitrc@gmail.com

Neeru Jindal, Neuroscience Research Lab, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, India, Email: jindal.neeru@gmail.com

Abhijith Shettar, Department of Biochemistry, Kuvempu University, Shivagangotri, Devangere, Karnataka – 577 002, Email: abhijith.sr@gmail.com

K. Gopinath, Department of Biochemistry, Cell Biology Laboratory, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, Chennai – 600 025, Email: gopinathbio@gmail.com

T. Ambili Appakuttan, Division of Neuroscience & Physiology, CSIR – Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, 4, Raja S.C. Mullick Road, Kolkata – 700 032, India, Email: ambilia@gmail.com

Epsit Srivastava, School of Studies in Neurosciences, Jiwaji University, Gwalior – 474 011,

Manavi Bhadauria, School of Studies in Neurosciences, Jiwaji University, Gwalior – 474 011, Email: manvibhadauria@gmail.com

B.K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award – 2012

Dr (Ms). Vijaylakshmi Ravindranath
Chairperson, Centre For Neuroscience
Old TIFR Building
Indian Institute of Science
Bangalore - 560012.

New Elected Fellows

Dr (Ms). Preeti G. Joshi
Professor & Head
Department of Biophysics
National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences
Hosur Road, Bangalore - 560029

Dr (Ms). Gurcharan Kaur
Professor
Department of Biotechnology
Guru Nanak Dev University
Amritsar-143 005, Punjab

Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award – 2011

K. Mahati, V Bhgya, T Christofer, TR Raju and BS Shankaranarayana Rao, Department of Neurophysiology, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore – 560 029, India (Email: mahati@gmail.com), Escitalopram and Environmental Enrichment Act Synergistically to Restore Hippocampal Synaptic Plasticity, Enhanced Anxiety and Cognitive Deficits in an Endogenous Animal Model of Depression

Dr. D.M. Kar Prize – 2011

Kalpana B Hota, Sunil K Hota, Shashi B Singh, High Altitude Physiology Laboratory, Defence Institute of High Altitude Research, C/o. 56 APO, Leh, Jammu & Kashmir – 901 205, India (Email: drkalpana2009@hotmail.com), Neuroglobin Regulates Hypoxic Response of Neuronal Cells Through Nrf2 Mediated Mechanism: Neuroprotection with Acetyl-L-Carnitine

S.S. Parmar Research Foundation (USA) Prize – 2011

Emili Banerjee, Debashis Dutta, Ambili Appakuttan, KP Mohanakumar, Cell Biology & Physiology Division, CSIR – Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, 4 Raja S.C. Mullick Road, Kolkata – 700 032, India (Email: banerjeeemily@yahoo.com), Differential Protein Expression in the Substantia Nigra and Ventral Tegmental Area of MPTP Model of Parkinson's Disease

Dhiraj Kumar and MK Thakur, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Laboratory, Brain Research Centre, Department of Zoology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi – 221 005, India (Email: dhiraj.bhu2008@gmail.com), Prenatal Exposure to Bisphenol A Modulates The Expression of Synaptic Proteins Neuroligin3 and Neurexin1 in Cerebral Cortex and Hippocampus of Female Mouse Brain

Jyotsnamoyee Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize – 2011

Mahendra P. Kashyap, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Post Box No. 80, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, India, (Email:), Caspase cascade regulated mitochondria mediated apoptosis in monocrotophos exposed PC 12 cells., Published in Chemical Research in Toxicology, 2010, 23, 1663 – 1672

Best Paper Award from the Organizers – 2011

Pankaj S Ghate and Ranjit K Giri, National Brain Research Centre, Manesar, Haryana – 122 050, (Email: ranjit@nbrc.ac.in), Neurosphere Culture as a Novel *In Vitro* Model for Alzheimer's Disease

Saroj Sharma, TC Nag, A Thakur, DN Bhardwaj and TS Roy, Department of Anatomy, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi – 110 029 (Email: drsaroj2001@gmail.com), A Stereological Study of the Human Cochlear Nuclear Complex with Age

Gunjan Saxena, Sachi Bharti, Ishan K. Patro, Chandiswar Nath; India Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati, North Guwahati – 781 039, India, AF64A (ICA) Induced Memory Impairment in Rats: A Suitable Experimental Model to Study Anti – Dementia Drugs

Ayushi Jain, Pooja Suhalka, Piyu Sukhwai, Chhavi Sharma, Neha Jaiswal and Maheep Bhatnagar, Neuroscience and Animal Biotechnology Laboratory, Department of Zoology, University College of Science, MLS University, Udaipur, India, Effects of Melatonin on Lipid Peroxidation, Antioxidative Enzymes and Neurotransmitter Activity in Rats Administered with Kainic Acid

Next Conference at Amritsar

The XXX annual conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences will be held at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar from October 28 – 30, 2012. Dr (Ms). Gurcharan Kaur is the Organizing Secretary. The preliminary details of the conference are available on the IAN website <www.neuroscienceacademy.org.in>

Suggestions, if any for the conference may be sent to her on the following address,

Prof. Gurcharan Kaur, Department of Biotechnology,
Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar-143005, India
Email: <kgurcharan.neuro@yahoo.com>

Call for Proposals for Symposia

Proposals for symposia on cutting edge areas of neuroscience are invited for consideration for XXX conference of Indian Academy of Neurosciences from October 28 – 30, 2012 at Amritsar. The duration of the symposium will be 2 hours with four-five presentations of 20 minutes by the experts in the area. A written proposal not exceeding 2 pages with background and rationale alongwith list of speakers be forwarded to the Organizing Secretary and a copy of the same to Dr. Pankaj Seth, General Secretary and Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ latest by **April 30, 2012**. Suggestions, if any for the programme may also be forwarded.

Awards for Young Neuroscientists

To recognize the contributions of young researchers working in the area of neurosciences and encourage them, the Indian Academy of Neurosciences has instituted following awards/prizes.

1. **Tulsabai Somani Educational Trust Award** (For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 40 years of age at the annual conference).
2. **Dr. D.M. Kar Prize** (For best oral presentation by the young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference).
3. **Professor S.S. Parmar Research Foundation Award** (For best poster presentation by young neuroscientist below 35 years of age at the annual conference).
4. **Jyotsnamoyee - Raghunath Bhattacharya Prize** (For published research paper in the field of basic neurosciences. Paper should have been published during the past 2 years).

Individuals willing to be considered for the awards may apply directly or get themselves nominated. The details of the awards are on the IAN website. Further information, if any may also be obtained from Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ and Principal Scientist, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Email <vkkhanna1@gmail.com> **Last date of receiving nominations is August 30, 2012.**

Nominations for Fellowship

The Academy recognizes scientists who have excelled in neurosciences by electing them as Fellows. A life member or honorary member of the Academy with at least 10 years of research experience in the field of neurosciences can be nominated. Nominations on prescribed format available at the website or from the Secretary (HQ), supported by three Fellows of the Academy are invited alongwith complete Biodata. A soft copy and seven hard copies of nominations complete in all respects should be sent to Professor Subrata Sinha, Dean, Indian Academy of Neurosciences and Director, National Brain Research Centre, NH 8, Nainwal Mode, Manesar – 122 050, Email <director@nbric.ac.in> and a copy of the same to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ and Principal Scientist, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Email <vkkhanna1@gmail.com> latest by **July 30, 2012**.

Note:

Seven complete set of nomination papers alongwith CV should be sent to the Dean and a copy of the same to the Secretary HQ before the last date. Soft copy of the material in CD should also be sent along positively. Incomplete nominations will not be entertained. Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year.

Travel Awards

Applications are invited for Dr. R. Nath Memorial Travel Fellowships and John Miller Travel Awards. Students and young researchers below 35 years of age presenting a paper at the annual conference at Amritsar are eligible to apply. The awards will be available on competitive basis. Up to 8 travel awards consisting of actual travel reimbursement by AC-3 Tier upto the maximum of Rs. 1,500/- will be awarded in case of Dr. R. Nath Memorial Travel Fellowship. In case of John Miller Travel Award, up to 2 travel awards will be awarded consisting of actual travel reimbursement by 2nd Class-3Tier and will not exceed Rs. 600/- each. Requests alongwith abstract of the paper may be sent to the Organizing Secretary Dr (Ms). Gurcharan Kaur, Department of Biotechnology, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar-143005, India; Email: <kgurcharan.neuro@yahoo.com> and a copy of the same to the Treasurer Dr. A.K. Agrawal, Developmental Toxicology Division, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001 by **August 30, 2012**.

Executive Committee (2011 - 2012)

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Dr. M.K. Thakur
BHU, Varanasi

Vice Presidents

Dr. G.N. Pandey
UIC, Chicago, USA

Dr. U.C. Srivastava
AU, Allahabad

Dean

Dr. S. Sinha
NBRC, Manesar

General Secretary

Dr. P. Seth
NBRC, Manesar

Secretary HQ

Dr. V.K. Khanna
CSIR-IITR, Lucknow

Secretary International Affairs

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UoW - Madison, USA

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Lucknow

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DIPAS, New Delhi

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CSMMU UP, Lucknow

Immediate Past General Secretary

Dr M.K. Thakur
BHU, Varanasi

Nominations for Professor B. K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award & Professor KT Shetty Memorial Oration

Nominations for B. K. Bachhawat Memorial Life Time Achievement Award – 2013 and KT Shetty Memorial Oration for 2012 and 2013 are invited. The nominee must be a Fellow / Life Member of the Indian Academy of Neurosciences. He/ She should have at least 10 years standing in the area of Neurosciences. The contributions in Neuroscience in India will be judged by i. Research publications ii. Awards and iii. Contributions to growth of Neuroscience in India.

Nominations alongwith complete Bio-data and supporting documents should be sent to Professor Subrata Sinha, Dean, Indian Academy of Neurosciences and Director, National Brain Research Centre, NH 8, Nainwal Mode, Manesar – 122 050, Email <director@nbc.ac.in> and a copy of the same to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Secretary HQ and Principal Scientist, CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Email <vkkhanna1@gmail.com> positively by **July 30, 2012**. Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year.

Forthcoming Meetings

XXVIII Congress of the International College Neuropsychopharmacology (CINP) June 3 – 7, 2012, Stockholm, Sweden

Web site: www.cinp2012.com, www.cinp.org

The Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) July 14 -18, 2012, Barcelona, Spain

<http://fens2012.neurosciences.asso.fr/>

Neuroscience 2012 - 42nd Annual Meeting (SFN) October 13 - 17, 2012, New Orleans, LA, United States

<http://www.sfn.org>

Joint Conference of the 11th Biennial Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Society for Neurochemistry and 55th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Neurochemistry (APSN/JSN) September 29-October 2, 2012, Kobe, Japan

<http://www.apsneurochem.org>

Nominations for the Executive Committee

Nominations for the position of Vice President (1), Secretary HQ (1), Secretary International Affairs (1) and Members (2) are invited on the prescribed format enclosed herewith. The nominations should be sent either to Dr. Vinay K. Khanna, Principal Scientist, Developmental Toxicology Division, CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, MG Marg, Lucknow – 226 001, Email <neuroscienceacademy@gmail.com> or Dr. Pankaj Seth, additional Professor, National Brain Research Centre, NH 8, Nianwal Mode, Manesar – 122 050, Email <pseth@nbrc.ac.in> so as to reach them positively by **July 30, 2012**.

**INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES
Format for Annual Election / Nomination**

Nomination for the post of:

Name:

Address:

Membership No.:

Proposer:

Name:

Membership No.:

Signature

Seconder:

Name:

Membership No.:

Signature

Note: Proposer and Seconder should be the member of IAN. Last date of receiving nominations - July 30, 2012.

**INDIAN ACADEMY OF NEUROSCIENCES
Format for Nomination of Fellows**

Name:

Address & Designation:

Qualification:

(Degree and post graduation)

Membership in Academy:

Life

Date of joining Academy

Significant Contributions

in the field of Neurosciences:

(About 200 words, attach annexure)

Most Significant Publications

During the last five years

(Please give the titles and attach

copies of three publications)

Proposed by

Supported by

Name _____

Signatures _____

Address _____

Note: Proposer and Seconder should be Fellows of the Academy.

Seven complete set of nomination papers and CV should be sent to the Dean and a copy of the same to the Secretary HQ before the last date. Soft copy of the material in CD should also be sent along positively.

Incomplete nominations will not be entertained. Nominations received after the last date will be considered next year. Last date of receiving nominations - July 30, 2012.