

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING  
OF INDIAN SOCIETY OF AEROSPACE MEDICINE HELD  
ON 21 NOV 25 ON HYBRID PLATFORM**

1. The General Body Meeting (GBM) of the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine (ISAM) was conducted on a hybrid platform at 1630h on 21 Nov 25 during the 64<sup>th</sup> ISAM Conference held at IAM IAF. This was attended by approximately 100 members physically and 20 members virtually. At the outset, a tribute was paid by observing a minute silence towards the fatal crash of LCA Tejas aircraft at the Dubai airshow on 21 Nov 25.

2. The meeting was chaired by Air Mshl Sandeep Thareja SM, VSM & BAR, DGMS (Air) & President ISAM and attended by the following members of the Executive Committee of the Society.

- 2.1 Air Cmde Rajesh Kumar, PMO, HQ SAC then Cmdt IAM
- 2.2 Air Cmde Manas Saha, VSM, Air Cmde MS (S)
- 2.3 Air Cmde Prateek Kinra, CO 5 AFH
- 2.4 Air Cmde NK Tripathy, Cmdt IAM, then Gp Capt MS (AM) & Secy ISAM
- 2.5 Surg Capt DK Kagti (Navy Rep), nominated member
- 2.6 Gp Capt Ranjan Sarkar then Secy ISAM (Desig)
- 2.7 Col Yogender Vidhani, (Army Rep), nominated member
- 2.8 Wg Cdr Ajay Kumar, CO 2 AMTC, elected member
- 2.9 Wg Cdr V Raghunandan, elected member
- 2.10 Wg Cdr Avinash BK, elected member
- 2.11 Wg Cdr BN Vasudev, elected member
- 2.12 Wg Cdr Divya N (Retd), elected member

3. On behalf of the society, Gp Capt Ranjan Sarkar, Secy (Desig), welcomed the new President, Air Mshl Sandeep Thareja SM, VSM & BAR, DGMS (Air). Thereafter, on behalf of the President ISAM, he welcomed all the members of the Society to the GBM of 2025.

4. **Obituary.** Secy ISAM (Desig) read out the obituary of two of our veteran ISAM members, who left us for their heavenly abode.

4.1 Late Dr EM Iyer was selected by the UPSC in 1977 and had joined IAF as a Senior Scientific Officer Grade-I (Biochemistry) and retired as Sc "F" in 2003 from IAM. He was one of the oldest members of ISAM and will be remembered for his contributions to the Dept. of Aviation Pathology, IAM. He breathed his last on 13 Oct 25.

4.2 Late Gp Capt NS Baboo who was commissioned in IAF on 25 Jul 1971, the Officer with a MD in Physiology was an eminent physiologist, academician and researcher par excellence. He was posted to IAM from 1996 to 2000. The Officer will forever be cherished as a kind-hearted and unpretentious individual, a motivating educator, a dedicated researcher of unmatched skill. He breathed his last on 26 Oct 25.

5. **Welcome of New Members of EC.** Secy (Desig) welcomed the newly elected members; Wg Cdr Ajay Kumar, Wg Cdr Avinash BK & Wg Cdr BN Vasudev.

6. **Honorary Fellowship.** Air Mshl Sandeep Thareja, SM, VSM & Bar, President ISAM was conferred 'Honorary Fellowship' of the Society that was ratified by overwhelming majority in the meeting.

7. Secy ISAM (Desig), presented the progress and review of old agenda points, Society activities since last GBM and discussed the fresh agenda points. The salient points of these deliberations are tabulated below:-

Agenda Point (a)	Action by (b)	Info (c)
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ITEM I</b></p> <p>8. <b>Progress/Review on Old Points.</b> The last GBM was held on a hybrid platform on 06 Dec 24 at IAM IAF during the 63<sup>rd</sup> ISAM Conference. The points under progress and the important decisions of the last GBM are as follows: -</p> <p>8.1. <b>Indexing of IJASM.</b> Efforts towards indexing of the IJASM was one of the critical activities of the Society. The Editorial Team has strongly pursued the same. However, more effort was required to improve quality of papers, increase on line visibility and avoid delays in publication.</p>		

8.1.1. Secy (Desig) ISAM informed the house that the **IJASM has been indexed with EMBASE wef Jan 2025**. To deal with delays in publication of the 'Ahead of Print' option was explored with the publisher and has fructified for the Winter 2025 & Summer 2026 editions.

8.1.2. To increase the scientific acceptability of the journal and to deal with the delays in publication the following measures were suggested by the President and also agreed upon in the Journal Advisory Cmte Meeting held on 18 Nov 25:-

8.1.2.1. To incorporate suggestions from Editor MJAFI, who was a co-opted member in the Journal Adv. Cmte Meeting. To include Editor MJAFI on the editorial board.

8.1.2.2. The President suggested that 'Supplementary Issues' such as lessons learnt from International Conferences contributed by ISAM nominated attendees/ Official delegates could be published for the journal in between major.

8.1.3. To incorporate measures to expand the Advisory Council. Towards this the following measures were proposed:-

8.1.3.1. Waiving of three year term of journal advisory members.

8.1.3.2. Waiving of requirement of journal advisory member to be a local resident of Bangalore. The house was informed that this clause is redundant in view of the present online nature of the journal.

8.1.4. **e-Unveiling of AOP edition:** The President ISAM unveiled the Ahead Of Print edition for IJASM Winter 2025 version. The AOP is available on the journal website – [www.indjaerospacemed.com](http://www.indjaerospacemed.com)



<p>lectures at Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences &amp; Research and Noida International Institute of Medical Sciences.</p> <p><b>9.2. Participation in 95<sup>th</sup> AsMA 2025.</b> The 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Conference of Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) and the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS) was held at Atlanta, USA from 01 to 06 Jun 2025 themed “<i>Innovation: Journey to the Future</i>”. Approximately 1600 participants from 55 countries attended the meeting. The scientific program featured over 500 presentations, including slide and poster presentations, across the full spectrum of aerospace, undersea, and hyperbaric medicine. Air Mshl S Subramanian was the ISAM sponsored delegate and presented a paper titled “<i>Development of a Compact, Point of Care, low Cost Osmometer to Measure Urine Osmolality in Space</i>”. Sqn Ldr Anubhav Upadhyay (ISAM sponsored student delegate), Wg Cdr Devdeep Ghosh (official delegates) and Flt Lt Neha Rao (official delegates) made podium presentations during AsMA-2025. All presenters delivered their talks in the highest professional manner and were highly appreciated by the attendees.</p> <p><b>9.3. Participation in 71<sup>st</sup> ICASM 2025.</b> The 71<sup>st</sup> International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM) was held in Singapore on 27-30 Oct 2025. Approx 500 participants presented about 120 scientific papers in 30 different sessions covering the entire gamut of Aerospace Medicine in both military and civil domains. The conference aimed to unite international aviation and space medicine professionals, themed “<i>Soaring Towards New Horizons in Aviation and Space Medicine</i>”. A delegation led by DGMS (Air) and consisting of three team members (Lt Col Srinivasa Bhattachar, Wg Cdr Deepan Rai, Sqn Ldr Nandishwar Rathore) and one ISAM sponsored delegate (Dr B Sinha, Sc ‘F’) participated in the Congress and presented their scientific research papers. Air Mshl Sandeep Thareja had multiple interactions with dignitaries from Singapore Military Medical Services. Two of our valued members Dr Punita Masrani and Dr Sarita Dara moderated the esteemed Ernsting Panel on New Paradigms and Approaches in Aviation Mental Health and Women in Aviation respectively. Gp Capt (Dr)</p>		<p>Members</p> <p>Members</p>
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<p>Umesh Kumar (Retd) received the IAASM academician award at the Congress.</p> <p><b>9.4. Inauguration of ICMR-CAR in Space Psychology by Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri.</b> On 09 March 2025, Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh made a historic visit—the first by Union Raksha Mantri to IAM. He received a briefing on IAM's unique role in pilot training, medical evaluation, and aeromedical research. Shri Rajnath Singh subsequently inspected key training facilities including the High-Performance Human Centrifuge for high-G training of fighter pilots and the Spatial Disorientation Simulator. The visit was also marked by the launch of a significant initiative: an ICMR Extramural Research Project: Centre for Advanced Research titled 'Space Psychology: Selection and Behavioral Health Training of Astronauts &amp; Astronaut Designates for Indian Space Missions' in presence of the Chief of the Air Staff and the DGMS(Air).</p> <p><b>9.5. Flight Surgeon support to Axiom-4 Mission to ISS.</b> Gp Capt Punyashlok Biswal, an Associate Fellow of the ISAM, was the Indian Flight Surgeon to Gp Capt Shubhanshu Shukla for the Axiom-4 Mission, a private spaceflight to the International Space Station. During this mission, he was deployed to Cape Canaveral, Florida for the quarantine and pre-launch phase, and later to Houston, Texas, for the orbital, recovery and rehabilitation stages. The lessons learnt from this mission are contributing to the refinement of medical protocols for Gaganyaan, India's maiden human spaceflight mission.</p> <p><b>9.6. 'ANUGAMI: Gyanex-1' Space Analog Mission at IAM.</b> In a pioneering step for India's Human Space Program, The Indian Air Force enabled a 10-day space analog mission at IAM in collaboration with ICMR Centre for Advanced Research in Space Psychology. Aerospace Medicine specialists provided domain expertise and flight surgeon support to ANUGAMI, the country's maiden high fidelity space analog mission.</p> <p><b>9.7. AAMIMO COURSE – USAFSAM, DAYTON, USA.</b> Lt Col Kishore K Dalapati &amp; Wg Cdr Avinash BK were selected and underwent the prestigious 63<sup>rd</sup> Advanced Aerospace Medicine for International</p>		<p>Members</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Members</p>
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<p>Medical Officers (AAMIMO) course in US School of Aerospace Medicine (USAFSAM) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio from 04 Jan to 26 Jun 25. Wg Cdr Avinash BK was awarded the distinguished <b>'Propwash'</b> award for the course, continuing the legacy set by his predecessors.</p> <p>9.8. <b>Technical Mini Series No 22 &amp; 23.</b> IAM prepared two TMSs titled 'Aerospace Medicine: Psychological Aspects' &amp; 'Substance Abuse and Drug Testing at Workplace' were released by the President ISAM during the GBM.</p>		<p>Members</p> <p>Members</p>
<b>ITEM III</b>		
<p>10. <b>Fresh Agenda Points.</b></p> <p>10.1. <b>Election for New Members of Executive Committee (EC).</b> Secy ISAM (Desig) informed the house that four members of EC would be vacating their appointments this year. He further informed that, to fill up the vacancies, announcement of election was made on 26 Sep 25 and nomination for election were sought by 24 Oct 25. A total of four members expressed their willingness for election. An online voting was conducted for election on 28 Oct to 10 Nov 25. Only four names were received and hence no election was conducted. Secy ISAM informed that the EC has approved the following members as EC members and the same need to be ratified by GBM: -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">10.1.1. Gp Capt Prathu Rastogi</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">10.1.2. Lt Col Manu N</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">10.1.3. Lt Col Deepak Raj Bhatt</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">10.1.4. Wg Cdr Sneha Dinakar</p> <p><b>Decision.</b> The names of the newly elected members approved in the ECM were ratified in the GBM.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>10.2 The following points were received from <b>Gp Capt Rahul Pipraiya (Retd):-</b></p>	<p>Secy ISAM</p>	<p>Members</p>

<p><b>10.2.1. Utilization of Funds for Civilian PG Residents.</b> ISAM funds may be utilized for reimbursement of travel expenses for outstation academic visits iro Civilian PG Residents.</p> <p><b>Decision.</b> The EC agreed to sponsor an amount of max Rs 50,000/- per student amounting to Rs 1,50,000/- per year only towards travel &amp; accommodation expenditure for authorized outstation educational visits. The payment of funds has to be made on actual presentation of bills (air/train ticket and hotel/mess bills). The recommendations were ratified in the GBM.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p>	Secy ISAM	Members
<p><b>10.2.2. Defining role of EC members.</b> Designation of additional role to EC members:-</p> <p><b>10.2.2.1. Selection of Fellows and Associate Fellows.</b> The QRs and procedures of selection of Fellows and Associate Fellows have been ratified by GBM &amp; published in Society Memorandum 2020. Selection is done by BOO with senior most serving Air Force Aerosp Med Spl as Presiding Officer and Air Cmde MS (S) &amp; Secy ISAM as members that is approved by Present ISAM, and was subsequently ratified in GBM.</p>	Secy ISAM	Members
<p><b>Decision.</b> The house agreed with the decisions by EC. The QRs and the methodology were approved in GBM 2019. The same is to be followed for selection of Fellow and Associate Fellow. No further changes were agreed to.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p><b>10.2.2.2. Sponsoring of EC members for International Conferences.</b></p> <p><b>Decision.</b> As suggested and discussed, sponsoring of members for International Conf is already in practice.</p>	Secy ISAM	Members



<p>Experienced ISAM members (preferably Fellows) &amp; subject experts on the topics (max two) be identified as resource faculty. The travel expenses and lodging arrangements will be made by ISAM. <b>Schedule of such workshops should not be close to ISAM Conference dates.</b> Details to be prepared by IAM and forwarded for approval of President.</p>										
<p><b>Point Open</b></p> <p>10.4. The following points were received from Secy ISAM (Desig) as surfaced during ECM:-</p> <p>10.4.1. <b>QRs for EC Member of ISAM.</b> Consideration for election or nomination as EC Member, he/she should be a life member. The EC decided that a member should at least have a minimum of 10 years of life membership to qualify as EC member.</p>	Secy ISAM	Members								
<p><b>Decision.</b> The point was discussed in the GBM and the house recommended only life membership as a necessary requirement for EC membership, without any qualifying years as life members.</p>	Secy ISAM	Members								
<p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>10.4.2. <b>Delegate Fee for ISAM Conference.</b> The last revision of delegate fee for the ISAM Conf was in the year 2021 and it was decided that no revision would be done for next five years (till 2026). However, due to increase in the overall expenditure of the Conference and increased release of Seed money accordingly, it was discussed and deliberated in ECM to increase the Delegate fees from the year 2026 itself. The proposed changes to the delegate fees are as follows:-</p>										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="347 1690 527 1843">Members  (a)</th> <th data-bbox="527 1690 711 1843">Present Delegate Fee (b)</th> <th data-bbox="711 1690 894 1843">Proposed Delegate Fee (c)</th> <th data-bbox="894 1690 1057 1843">Remarks (d)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="347 1843 527 1919">ISAM Life Members</td> <td data-bbox="527 1843 711 1919">Rs. 10,000/-</td> <td data-bbox="711 1843 894 1919">Rs. 15,000/-</td> <td data-bbox="894 1843 1057 1919"><b>Ratified by GBM</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members  (a)	Present Delegate Fee (b)	Proposed Delegate Fee (c)	Remarks (d)	ISAM Life Members	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 15,000/-	<b>Ratified by GBM</b>		
Members  (a)	Present Delegate Fee (b)	Proposed Delegate Fee (c)	Remarks (d)							
ISAM Life Members	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 15,000/-	<b>Ratified by GBM</b>							

Non-Members	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 20,000/-	<b>Ratified by GBM</b>
Veteran (Armed Forces) Life Members	Rs. 5,000/-	Rs. 7,500/-	<b>No change</b>
Civilian Student	Rs. 5,000/-	Rs. 7,500/-	<b>No change</b>
Foreigners	400 USD	500 USD	<b>Ratified by GBM</b>

**Decision.** The recommendations were ratified in the GBM. The new delegate fee structure will be implemented wef 2026 and will be reviewed after three years. **Additionally, the house ratified a proposal from the Organizers to cease the virtual mode of the conference from the forthcoming year.** On this, the President directed the Secy (Desig) to inform all concerned about the same.

**Point Closed**

**10.5. Increase of funding for ISAM Research Project.** The deliberation on increase of funding for ISAM Sponsored Research project from existing Rs 1,00,000/- to Rs 5,00,000/- for Post Graduate Thesis, Short (departmental) Projects, Field Projects was agreed upon by the EC members for sponsoring a maximum of 1,00,000/- per project with annual ceiling of Rs 5,00,000/-.

**Decision.** The recommendations by ECM was ratified in the GBM.

**Point Closed**

**10.6. Increase in Honorarium of ISAM Clerk at ISAM Sectt.** It was deliberated in the ECM to increase the honorarium of ISAM Clerk at ISAM Sectt at Air HQ from existing Rs 1000/- per month to Rs 3000/- per month. The same was agreed in the ECM.

**Decision.** The recommendation was ratified in the GBM.

Secy ISAM

Members

Secy ISAM

Members

Secy ISAM

Members

<p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>10.7. <b>Topic for TMS - 2026.</b> During the IJASM Advisory Committee meeting, two topics were suggested for publications TMS next year. The topics were 'Human Machine Integration' and 'Air &amp; Space Motion Sickness'.</p> <p><b>Decision.</b> The topic of 'Air &amp; Space Motion Sickness' was selected for TMS publication for 2026 and has been ratified in the GBM.</p>	Secy ISAM	Members
<p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>10.8. <b>Audit Report for the Financial Year 2025-2026.</b> The Secy. presented the audit report along with the trial balance for the financial year 2025-26 duly vetted by the Chartered Accountant. He informed the house that there are no observations made by the auditor. The Secy informed the house regarding the incremental seed money required for ISAM Conferences that has resulted in increased expenses, which has necessitated the revision of delegate fees. He also informed the house regarding the latest Fixed Deposits done by the Sectt as per IAF NPF regulations.</p> <p><b>Decision.</b> The audit report was ratified by the members.</p>	IAM/Secy ISAM	Members
<p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>10.9. <b>Selection of New Fellows of the Society.</b> Based on the approved MoM of 2019, a BOO under chairmanship of senior most IAF Aerosp Med Spl was constituted at Air HQ with Air Cmde MS (S) and Gp Capt MS (AM) as members to finalize the names of new Fellows. The BOO has recommended following 02 members to be nominated as Fellows for the year 2025 which has been approved by the EC.</p> <p>10.9.1. Gp Capt SS Mohapatra</p> <p>10.9.2. Dr ChN Sowgandhi, Sc 'F'</p> <p><b>Decision.</b> The decision of BOO was agreed by the EC and the same was ratified in the GBM.</p>	Secy ISAM	Members

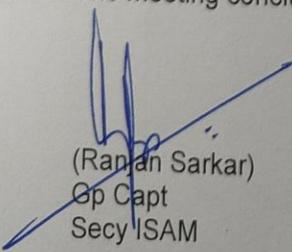
<p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>10.10. <b>Selection of Air Mshl PM Sundram Travelling Fellowship.</b> The BOO under chairmanship of senior most IAF Aerosp Med Spl with Air Cmde MS (S) and Wg Cdr MS (CA) as members was constituted at Air HQ, which based on the approved QRs shortlisted the following Officers for the Travelling Fellowship for the year 2025-26:-</p> <p>10.10.1. Gp Capt P Biswal</p> <p>10.10.2. Gp Capt Ranjan Sarkar</p> <p><b>Decision.</b> The decision of BOO was agreed by the EC and the same was ratified in the GBM.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>10.11. <b>Selection of New Associate Fellows of the Society.</b> This year the Sectt received three applications from the following members for the Associate Fellowship: -</p> <p>10.11.1 Wg Cdr Kartik Kalyanram (Retd.)</p> <p>10.11.2 Wg Cdr Renu Bhatt (Retd.)</p> <p>10.11.3. Sqn Ldr Gaurab Ghosh</p> <p>Secy ISAM (Desig) informed that all the three applications were in order and the members were found to meet the required QRs (approved in GBM 2019) and were approved in the ECM.</p> <p><b>Decision.</b> Grant of Associate Fellowship to the three members was ratified in GBM</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>10.12. <b>New Life Members of the Society.</b> Secy (Desig) ISAM informed that a total of 10 new applications were received for Life Membership of the Society. All the applications were in order. The list of applicants for the Life Membership is as follows: -</p> <p>10.12.1. AVM Renuka Kunte</p> <p>10.12.2. Air Cmde Manas Saha, VSM</p>	<p>Secy ISAM</p> <p>Secy ISAM</p>	<p>Members</p> <p>Members</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MD Exam –Maj Sunil Kumar</b></p> <p>12. Following awards were handed over by President ISAM during the GBM: -</p> <p>12.1. President’s Gold Medal for Standing First in MD for the year (2021 – 2024) – <b>Maj Jeya Karthik R</b></p> <p>12.2. President’s Gold Medal for Standing First in MD for the year (2022 – 2025) – <b>Dr Bhavana KK</b></p> <p>12.3. The IAF Technical Training Awards for 2025</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">12.3.1 Winners: <b>South Western Air Command</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">12.3.2 Runners Up: <b>Maintenance Command</b></p> <p>12.4. Air Mshl Kuldip Rai Award for best published article in IJASM for the year 2025. – <b>Maj Jeya Karthik R</b></p> <p>12.5. Air Mshl PM Sundaram Travelling Fellowship– <b>Gp Capt NK Tripathy and Col S Bhardwaj</b></p> <p>12.6. IJASM Best Reviewer Award– <b>Gp Capt P Biswal</b></p> <p>12.7. Best Papers presented during 63<sup>rd</sup> ISAM Conf</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">12.7.1 Late Gp Capt GS Nayar Award for Best paper –<b>Maj Sunil Kumar</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">12.7.2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Paper–<b>Sqn Ldr Shrikant</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">12.7.3. Best Poster –<b>Lt Col Mithun Kumar (Retd)</b></p> <p>13. <b>Release of 7<sup>th</sup> Edition of Society Newsletter.</b> The 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the Society e-Newsletter was released by President ISAM.</p>		
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<b>ITEM V</b>		
<p>14. <b>Vote of Thanks to the Outgoing Members.</b> Secy ISAM (Desig) proposed Vote of thanks to the following outgoing members who have completed their tenure as members of EC.</p> <p>14.1. AVM A Agarwal, VSM (Retd)</p> <p>14.2. Air Cmde P Kinra</p> <p>14.3. Gp Capt Rahul Pipraiya (Retd)</p> <p>14.4. Wg Cdr Raghunandan V</p> <p>14.5. Wg Cdr Divya N (Retd)</p>		
<b>ITEM VI</b>		
<p>15. <b>Closing Remarks by the President.</b></p> <p>The President expressed his satisfaction on the successful conduct of the 64<sup>th</sup> ISAM Conference and congratulated the Organizers for the same. He also thanked the outgoing Secy Air Cmde (then Gp Capt) NK Tripathy for his dedicated contribution towards furthering the cause of the society and the specialty. He urged all members to be involved in all scientific endeavours of the society and to actively contribute in its professional growth.</p>		

16. There being no further points, Secy ISAM (Desig) thanked the President ISAM and all members of the Society attending physically and virtually for their participation in the GBM. The meeting concluded at 1800Hr on 21 Nov 25.

  
 (Ranjan Sarkar)  
 Gp Capt  
 Secy ISAM

Date: 12 Jan 26

**Copy to:**

1. Members of ISAM
2. IAM, IAF