

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL BODY MEETING**  
**OF INDIAN SOCIETY OF AEROSPACE MEDICINE HELD**  
**ON 06 DEC 24 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 06 Dec 24 during the 63<sup>rd</sup> ISAM Conference held at IAM IAF. This was attended by approximately 100 members physically and 25 members virtually.

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

- (a) AVM A Agarwal VSM
- (b) AVM N Taneja AVSM VSM (Retd)
- (c) Air Cmde Mukul Bhatia
- (d) Air Cmde Rajesh Kumar
- (e) Air Cmde Prateek Kinra
- (f) Surg Capt DK Kagti
- (g) Col Yogender Vidhani
- (h) Gp Capt Rahul Pipraiya (Retd)
- (j) Wg Cdr B Bhowmick
- (k) Wg Cdr Raghunandan V
- (l) Wg Cdr Divya N (Retd)
- (m) Gp Capt NK Tripathy – Secy ISAM

3. On behalf of the President ISAM, Secretary welcomed all the members of the Society attending the GBM physically and virtually.

4. **Obituary.** Secy ISAM, read out the obituary of Late Air Marshal Kuldip Rai who breathed his last on 27 Apr 24. The Air Officer with a Diploma and MD in Aviation Medicine was an eminent Aerospace Medicine specialist, academician and researcher par excellence. He had served in key IAF appointments such as Commandant IAM IAF, PMO HQTC and DGMS (Air) during his service career. He has a unique achievement of accumulating 600h of flying experience in Trainer aircraft. During his tenure as Commandant, IAM, he was instrumental in upgrading the simulators and introduction of a pattern of training for pilots flying Air Superiority Fighters to enhance their +Gz tolerance. He was the coordinator of the Commonwealth Aeronautics Research Council and also Indo-Soviet Cooperation Programme in Space Medicine under the aegis of ICMR. The Air Officer contributed Rs 5 lac to IJASM and in his name, Air Mshl Kuldip Rai award, a cash prize of Rs 25,000/- was instituted to facilitate best published article

in IJASM. The Air Officer will forever be cherished as a kind-hearted and unpretentious individual, a motivating educator, a dedicated researcher of unmatched skill.

5. **Welcome of New Members of EC.** Secy ISAM, welcomed the Air Cmde Rajesh Kumar, Comdt IAM & ex-officio member, newly nominated members; Col Y Vidhani from Indian Navy and Surg Capt DK Kagti from Indian Army. He also welcomed the newly elected members; Air Cmde Prateek Kinra, Gp Capt Rahul Pipraiya (Retd), Wg Cdr V Raghunandan & Wg Cdr Divya N (Retd).

6. **Opening Address by President ISAM.** President ISAM in his opening address welcomed all the members to the GBM. He informed the house on few major achievements of the Society. He informed the house that the members of the Society could attend both 94<sup>th</sup> AsMA Conference at Chicago, USA and 2<sup>nd</sup> ICAM at Lisbon Portugal this year; thereby establishing global presence of the Society in these important international scientific meets. He appreciated the fact that the scientific papers of the members were received so well in these international fora. He also informed the house that the IJASM has been indexed with EMBASE which is a milestone achievement and appreciated the efforts put in by the past and the present Editorial Team of the Journal. He further highlighted the efforts that need to be put in towards achieving higher level of indexation of IJASM. He also brought out the significant contributions made towards the aeromedical support to the Nation's Human Spaceflight Programme. In the end, he conveyed his sincere gratitude to all the members for their contribution towards the growth of the Society and directed Secy ISAM to proceed with the meeting.

7. Secy ISAM, 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	Action by	Info
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ITEM I</b></p> <p>8. <b><u>Progress/ Review on Old Points.</u></b> The last GBM was held on a hybrid platform on 24 Nov 23 at IAM IAF during the 62<sup>nd</sup> ISAM Conference. The points under progress and the important decisions of the last GBM are as follows: -</p> <p>(a) <b><u>Indexing of IJASM.</u></b> Indexing of the IJASM is the major critical activity of the Society. The Editorial Team is strongly pursuing the same. The major steps taken so far towards it includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outsourcing to firm M/s Scientific Scholar through a formal MoU for online publication, development and maintenance of the Journal website (<a href="http://www.indjaerospacemed.com">www.indjaerospacemed.com</a>) since</li> </ul>		

<p>2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The entire process of publication that includes submission of article, technical editing, review, proof reading and publication have been made online.</li> <li>• All editions since Nov 2019 have been published online.</li> <li>• Older issues of IJASM since 1964 to 2018 have been archived on the Journal website.</li> <li>• A robust policy on plagiarism check has been formulated and implemented.</li> <li>• Expansion of reviewer’s panel to include specialists from other specialties.</li> <li>• The composition of IJASM Editorial Board has been modified. The Chief Editor continues to be Ex-officio Comdt IAM. The Executive Editor and Technical Editor continue to be from IAM. One Associate Editor has been nominated from IAM whereas other has been outside IAM.</li> </ul> <p>Secy ISAM informed the house that the IJASM has been indexed with EMBASE wef Jan 2025. The steps towards achieving higher level of indexation of the Journal have been deliberated during the Journal Advisory Meeting held on 04 Dec 24 and following actions have been suggested:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Timely publication of the Journal</li> <li>▪ Improving the quality &amp; number of articles</li> <li>▪ Widening the scope of articles to other specialties</li> <li>▪ Inviting articles from aerospace agencies such as DEBEL, ISRO etc</li> <li>▪ IJASM Editorial Committee to forward quarterly feedback on the progress to Secy ISAM.</li> </ul> <p><u>Decision.</u> President ISAM directed that the above points are to be actioned and all efforts to be made to achieve higher level of indexation of IJASM.</p> <p><b>Point Open</b></p> <p>(b) <b><u>Bidding to host the ICASM Conference in India.</u></b> In the GBM 2019, it was proposed that ISAM should bid to host ICASM Conference in near future. Secy ISAM informed the house that conventionally</p>	<p>IJASM Editorial Board</p> <p>Secy, ISAM</p>	<p>Members</p>
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<p>(d) <b><u>Recognition for IJASM Reviewer.</u></b> The quality of Peer Review is a critical parameter that is being considered for indexing of a Journal. Towards this, it was decided during IJASM Advisory Meeting on 22 Nov 23 to introduce 'Best Reviewer' and '2<sup>nd</sup> Best Reviewer' awards. It was also decided that Editorial Board would design objective criteria for selection of these awards and same is to be implemented from the year 2024 onwards. Secy ISAM informed the house that the Editorial Board has designed objective criteria for selection of these awards and have selected 'Best Reviewer' and '2<sup>nd</sup> Best Reviewer' awards to be presented during the current meeting.</p> <p><u>Decision.</u> The President directed that the approved methodology is to be followed in selection of IJASM's 'Best Reviewer' and '2<sup>nd</sup> Best Reviewer' awards for the subsequent years as well.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>(e) <b><u>Provisional Subsidy for Delegate Fee for Civilian Residents.</u></b> A point was received from Gp Capt Rahul Pipraiya (Retd) that delegate fee for Civilian Residents may be made equal or lesser to approved delegate fee for Retd Av Med Spl. The point was deliberated in the ECM held on 22 Nov 23. It was brought out that there is a provision for lesser delegation fees iro student officers in most of the National &amp; International Conferences. EC was of the opinion that similar provisions be exercised for ISAM Conference and recommended that the delegate fee for all Residents (military or civil) be fixed at Rs 5,000/-. The decision of ECM was ratified in the GBM held on 24 Nov 23. Secy ISAM informed the house that the point has been implemented in 63<sup>rd</sup> ISAM Conf.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p>	<p>Secy, ISAM</p> <p>Secy, ISAM</p>	<p>Members</p> <p>Members</p>
<p><b><u>ITEM II</u></b></p>		
<p>9. <b><u>Society Activities.</u></b> Secy ISAM informed the house on the salient activities/ achievements of the Society in the</p>		

<p>last one year. These are enumerated below:-</p> <p>(a) <b><u>Air Mshl PM Sundaram Memorial Travelling Fellowship.</u></b> Gp Capt Mona Dahiya, one of the Travelling Fellow of the Society for the year 2023-24, conducted lectures at Vardhaman Mahavir Medical College &amp; Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi and Al Falah Medical College, Faridabad. Gp Capt Prathu Rastogi, other Travelling Fellow, conducted awareness lectures at Uttar Pradesh University of Medical Sciences (UPUMS), Safai (Etawah) and Autonomous State Medical College (ASMC), Ferozabad.</p> <p>(b) <b><u>Participation in 94<sup>th</sup> AsMA 2024.</u></b> The 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Conference of Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) was held at Chicago, USA from 05 to 09 May 2024. “Honoring the Past... Preparing for the Future”. Approximately 1670+ participants from the United States and appx 480 participants from all over the world attended the meeting. Gp Capt MS Nataraja and Wg Cdr Raghunandan V (official delegates) and Surg Lt Cdr Karthikeyan S (ISAM sponsored delegate) made podium presentations during AsMA-2024. All the presenters delivered their talks in the highest professional manner and were highly appreciated by the attendees.</p> <p>(c) <b><u>Participation in 2<sup>nd</sup> ICAM 2024.</u></b> The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Aerospace Medicine (ICAM) was held at Lisbon, Portugal on 03-05 Oct 2024. Approximately, 500 participants from about 50 countries participated in the event. A significant participation was from America, European countries, Gulf countries, South-east Asia and Australia. A delegation team consisting of one official delegate (Sqn Ldr Shivani Kasture), one ISAM sponsored delegate (Air Cmde Mahinder Panwar) and one ISAM sponsored PG Resident (Sqn Ldr Biswajit Bhowmick) participated in the Congress and presented their scientific research papers. In addition, Gp Capt Umesh Kumar (Retd) also presented a paper. All the presentations generated significant enthusiasm and interest among the audience.</p>		<p>Members</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Members</p>
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<p>(d) <b><u>Participation in 3<sup>rd</sup> Indian Space Conclave.</u></b> 3<sup>rd</sup> Indian Space Conclave was held at New Delhi on 05-07 Nov 24. AVM A Agarwal VSM was an invited panellist in one important session on 'Human Space Flight'.</p> <p>(e) <b><u>Participation in the 22<sup>nd</sup> National Space Science Symposium (NSSS), 2024.</u></b> Five member ISAM delegation team attended the 2024 NSSS held at Goa in Feb 24. Sqn Ldr Gaurab Ghosh was adjudged as 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Poster presenter in the above symposium. Gp Capt P Biswal also participated as a panellist in the break-out session titled, 'Future Planetary Missions on Moon, Venus and Mars'.</p> <p>(f) <b><u>AAMIMO Course.</u></b> Wg Cdr Sneha Dinakar underwent the 62<sup>nd</sup> (AAMIMO) Course, held at USAFSAM, USA from 26 Dec 2023 to 21 Jun 2024. She was also awarded the distinguished '<b>Propwash</b>' award for the course.</p> <p>(g) <b><u>Technical Mini Series No 21.</u></b> IAM prepared a TMS titled 'Lifestyle Modification &amp; Flying' which was released by the CAS during the inaugural session of 63<sup>rd</sup> ISAM Conference on 04 Dec 24.</p>		<p>Members</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Members</p> <p>Members</p>
<b><u>ITEM III</u></b>		
<p>10. <b><u>Fresh Agenda Points.</u></b></p> <p>(a) <b><u>New Members of Executive Committee (EC).</u></b> Secy ISAM informed the house that three members of EC would be vacating their appointments this year. These members are Air India rep and two elected members; Wg Cdr Biplab Bhowmick and Dr Ajit Kumar. He further informed that, to fill up the vacancies, announcement of election was made on 20 Nov 24 and nomination for election were sought by 27 Nov 24. A total of five members expressed their willingness for election. An online voting was conducted for election on 28 &amp; 29 Nov 24. He proposed the following names of newly elected members of EC based on the results of online voting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wg Cdr Ajay Kumar</li> </ul>		

- Wg Cdr Avinash BK
- Wg Cdr BN Vashudev

Decision. The names of the newly elected members approved in the ECM were ratified in the GBM. President ISAM directed that at least one month may be given from the time of announcement to seeking nomination for future election of EC members. He also directed that a brief biodata of the nominee as per a customized proforma be disseminated to members prior to election.

**Point Open**

(b) Revision of Financial Powers. The present financial powers of ISAM Functionaries & Org Committee of ISAM Conf are five years old (GBM 2019). Secy ISAM proposed a revision of the same. The present and proposed financial powers are as follows:-

(i) ISAM Functionaries.

Appointments	Present	Proposed
Secretary	25,000	50,0000
President	2,00,000	4,00,000
Executive Committee	5,00,000	10,00,000
Sanction of GBM	>5,00,000	>10,00,000
Temp loan as Seed Money	10,00,000	20,00,000
Sanction already accorded by GBM	Any amount	Any amount

(ii) Org Committee ISAM Conference.

Appointments	Present	Proposed
Treasurer	15,000	30,000
Org Secy	75,000	1,50,000
Executive Coordinator	6,00,000	12,00,000
Chief Coordinator	10,00,000	20,00,000

Decision. The proposed financial powers were ratified in the GBM.

**Point Closed**

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<p>(c) <b>Utilization of ISAM Corpus.</b> The following points were received from Gp Capt Rahul Pipraiya (Retd) towards utilization of ISAM corpus:-</p> <p>(i) ISAM could consider sponsoring the outstation visits (travel only) for the three P-V residents and they could share accommodation or stay in military messes on their own expense.</p> <p>(ii) Since the initial requirement of society for building funds has been met more than adequately, the provision of need for all IAF medical officers to mandatorily pay annual subscription to ISAM be re-visited.</p> <p>(iii) All members who have been paying annual subscription, but are also life members (by paying one time membership fee) may not need to continue with the subscription and the amount from the date of life membership may also be considered to be refunded.</p> <p>(iv) The officers who have paid more than 10 years of subscription and retired or seconded to other services may be considered as life members as this would make them eligible for Associate fellowship.</p> <p>PMO EAC submitted that all IAF Medical &amp; Dental Officers may not be compelled to pay annual subscription. He further brought out that all members are required to be informed about all activities pertaining to the society.</p> <p><u>Decision.</u> The following decisions taken on these points were brought out in the GBM:-</p> <p>(i) Stipend of civilian PG Resident has been recently revised to Rs 62,500/- month for the second year and the amount is considered adequate to meet their travel expenditure. Sponsoring the travel expenditure of outstation visit by ISAM was not approved.</p>	<p>Secy ISAM</p>	<p>Members</p>
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<p>(ii) Secy ISAM confirmed that annual membership subscription is immediately ceased for the members who take life membership of the Society. The provision of IAF MO &amp; Dental Officers to pay annual subscription is governed by AFO 29/2014. Grant of Life Membership to any member by paying Rs 10,000/- is as per the recently revised Society Memorandum. It was decided not to have any changes in the current provisions of AFO or Society Memorandum.</p> <p>(iii) Secy ISAM to update contact details of all members and ensure that all information pertaining to Society activities are disseminated to the members. He has also to institute a measure to obtain one time consent from the newly added annual members of the ISAM for willingness to pay annual subscription.</p> <p><b>Point at (c)(iii) Open</b></p> <p>(d) <b><u>Delegate Fee for ISAM Conference.</u></b> Prof Munna Khan submitted that National &amp; International professional societies do not charge delegate fee for Honorary &amp; Elected Fellows. Same provision may be implemented for ISAM Conf. In addition, following subsidies in delegate fee may be considered:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Associate Fellow – 75%</li> <li>(ii) Life Members – 50%</li> <li>(iii) Members – 25%</li> </ul> <p><u>Decision.</u> The current charges of delegation fee is as per the decision taken during GBM 2021. In the same GBM, it was also decided that there would be no changes in the delegation fee for the subsequent five years. Hence, it was decided not to change the delegation fee for the Conf.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>(e) <b><u>Topic for TMS - 2025.</u></b> During the IJASM Advisory Committee meeting, it was decided to make two TMS for the year 2025. The topics are as follows:-</p>	<p>Secy ISAM</p>	<p>Members</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aerospace Psychology</li> <li>• Substance Abuse &amp; Drug Testing at Workplace</li> </ul> <p><u>Decision.</u> President directed that the TMS are to be prepared by IAM on time and be released during 63<sup>rd</sup> ISAM Conference.</p> <p><b>Point Open</b></p> <p>(f) <b><u>Audit Report for the Financial Year 2023-2024.</u></b> The Secy and Treasurer ISAM presented the audit report along with the trial balance for the financial year 2023-24 duly vetted by the Chartered Accountant. He informed the house that there are no observations made by the auditor.</p>	Comdt IAM Secy ISAM	Members
<p><u>Decision.</u> The audit report was ratified by the members. President requested all members to offer constructive proposals for appropriate utilization of society money to reduce excess of income over expenditure.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>(f) <b><u>Selection of New Fellows of the Society.</u></b> Based on the approved MoM of 2019, a BOO under chairmanship of seniormost IAF Aerosp Med Splt 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 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wg Cdr S Sodhi (Retd)</li> <li>• Gp Capt Mona Dahiya</li> </ul>	Secy ISAM	Members
<p><u>Decision.</u> The recommendations were ratified in the GBM.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>(g) <b><u>Selection of Air Mshl PM Sundram Travelling Fellowship.</u></b> The BOO under chairmanship of seniormost IAF Aerosp Med Splt with Air Cmde MS (S) and Wg Cdr MS (CA) as members was constituted at</p>	Secy ISAM	Members

<p>Air HQ, which based on the approved QRs shortlisted the following officers for nomination of Travelling Fellowship for the year 2024-25:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gp Capt NK Tripathy</li> <li>• Col S Bharadwaj</li> </ul> <p><u>Decision.</u> The recommendations were ratified in the GBM.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>(h) <b><u>Selection of New Associate Fellows of the Society.</u></b> This year Sectt has received six applications from the following members for the Associate Fellowship:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr B Sinha</li> <li>• Dr Santhosh Kumar</li> <li>• Sqn Ldr Devdeep Ghosh</li> <li>• Sqn Ldr G Harshavardan</li> <li>• Wg Cdr Divya N (Retd)</li> <li>• Wg Cdr Shushree Khatua (Retd)</li> </ul> <p>Secy informed that all the six 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>	Secy ISAM	Members
<p><u>Decision.</u> Grant of Associate Fellowship to the six members were ratified in the GBM.</p> <p><b>Point Closed</b></p> <p>(j) <b><u>New Life Members of the Society.</u></b> Secy ISAM informed that a total of 10 new applications have been received for Life Membership of the Society. All the applications were in order and approved in the ECM. The list of candidates for the Life Membership is as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Col SK Kaushik</li> <li>• Col Manu Krishnan</li> <li>• Maj Kishor P</li> <li>• Maj Manu Murali V</li> </ul>	Secy ISAM	Members



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MD Exam - Sqn Ldr Anubhav Upadhyay</b></p> <p>(b) Following awards were given by DGMS (Air) &amp; President ISAM during the GBM:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Mshl Kuldip Rai Award for best published article in IJASM for the year 2024 – <b>Lt Col Binu Sekhar M</b></li> <li>• Air Mshl PM Sundaram Travelling Fellowship – <b>Gp Capt Mona Dahiya</b> and <b>Gp Capt Prathu Rastogi</b></li> <li>• IJASM Reviewer Award:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Best Reviewer Award - <b>Lt Col Binu Sekhar M</b></li> <li>▪ 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Reviewer Award - <b>Gp Capt P Biswal</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Best Papers presented during 63<sup>rd</sup> ISAM Conf <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late Gp Capt GS Nayar Award for best paper - <b>Col R Kochhar (Retd)</b></li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Paper - <b>Lt Col Srihari Iyer K</b></li> <li>• Best poster - <b>Sqn Ldr MC Das</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>13. <b>Release of 6<sup>th</sup> edition of Society Newsletter.</b> The 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Society Newsletter was released by President ISAM.</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>ITEM V</u></b></p> <p>14. <b>Vote of Thanks to the Outgoing Members.</b> Vote of thanks was proposed to the outgoing President Air Mshl Rajesh Vaidya VSM and following outgoing members who have completed their tenure as members of EC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AVM N Taneja AVSM VSM (Retd)</li> <li>• Wg Cdr B Bhowmick</li> <li>• Dr Ajit Kumar</li> </ul>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>ITEM VI</u></b></p> <p>15. <b>Closing Remarks by the President.</b> In his</p>		

concluding remarks, the President emphasized the need for putting in efforts for higher level of indexation of IJASM. He assured that contact details of all members will be updated and information on the Society will be disseminated to all. He also requested all members to forward constructive proposals to Secy, ISAM on appropriate utilization of society money to reduce excess of income over expenditure. The President thanked all the members of the Society for their valuable support and the good work for the benefit of the Society. He urged them to continue doing the same for the professional growth of the Society.		
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15. There being no further points, Secy ISAM thanked the President ISAM and all members of the ISAM attending physically as well as virtually for their participation in the GBM. The meeting concluded at 1730 h.



(NK Tripathy)  
Gp Capt  
Secy ISAM

Date: 07 Jan 25

**Copy to:**

1. Members of ISAM
2. IAM, IAF