



# Indian Association of Preventive & Social Medicine

Estd. 1974

**National President**

Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj

**Secretary General**

Dr. Manish Kumar Singh

Ref-IAPSM/HQ/064-B / dt. 20/10/2025

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Dr. Atul Kotwal

**Immediate Past President**

Dr. Annarao Kulkarni

**Vice President**

Dr. SM Salim Khan

**Immediate Past Secretary  
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**Chief Editor of IJCM**

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**Joint Secretary**

Dr. B Thirumala Rao

**Treasurer**

Dr. Medhavi Agarwal

**Executive Council**

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Dr. Malatesh Undi

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Dr. J. Anaiappan

**South Central**

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Dr. Hemangini Shah

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Dr. Anmol Gupta

Dr. Sarit Sharma

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Dr. Sandip Kumar

Dr. Ajeet Singh Bhadoria

**East**

Dr. Rivu Basu

Dr. Sanjeeb K Mishra

**West**

Dr. Anish Sinha

Dr. Parag Chavda

**Indian Association of Preventive and Social Medicine**

**Governing Council (2025-26)**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**11<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

The Governing Council meeting of IAPSM (2025-2026) was held under the chairmanship of Prof (Dr.) Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj -National President IAPSM on 11.10.2025 at Hotel Ramada, Lucknow 6 PM onwards. The following Governing Council members participated in the meeting

Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj (National President)  
Dr. Annarao Kulkarni (Immediate Past President)  
Dr. Atul Kotwal (President Elect)  
Dr. SM Salim Khan - Vice President  
Dr. Manish Kumar Singh (Secretary General)  
Dr. Purushottam Giri (Immediate Past Secretary General)  
Dr. B. Thirumala Rao ( Joint Secretary)  
Dr. Medhavi Aggarwal (Treasurer)  
Dr. Vikas Khrisagar (GC Member- South Central Zone)  
Dr. Hemangini Shah (GC Member South Central Zone)  
Dr. Sandip Gupta (GC Member- North Central Zone)  
Dr. Anish Sinha (GC Member- West Zone)  
Dr. Parag Chavada (GC Member- West Zone)  
Dr. Sarit Sharma (GC Member -North Zone)  
Dr. Anmol Gupta (GC member North Zone)  
Dr. Pracheet Raghuvir (GC Member- South Zone-1)  
Dr. GM Muhammad (GC Member- South Zone- 2)  
Dr. Aniappan Jaykumar (GC Member South Zone-2)  
Dr. Ravi Basu (GC Member-East Zone)  
Dr. Sanjeeb K Mishra ( GC member- East Zone)

Dr. Pankaj Bhardwaj (Chief Editor -IJCM) attended the meeting online.  
Dr. Malatesh Undi had expressed his inability to attend the GC meeting

The following Agenda points were deliberated upon

**Agenda 1. Welcome address by President, IAPSM**

Prof (Dr.) Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj, National President extended a warm welcome to all GC members. He requested Dr. Manish Kumar Singh, Secretary General- IAPSM to start the Proceedings of the Meeting.

**Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj**  
(National President- IAPSM)

**Dr. Manish Kumar Singh**  
(Secretary General- IAPSM)



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## Agenda 2. Update on Developments, Achievement's, Progress and Activities:

**2.1. Life Membership Update:** Dr Manish briefed that with the collective efforts of all GC members, life membership registrations are going on well in the tenure of the new Governing Council. A total of 570 new members had joined during the period 2024–2025 (1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025). Additionally, 454 new members have joined since 20<sup>th</sup> April 2025 to 11th October 2025. The proposed target for the term is to achieve 1,000 new memberships. Currently, the total life members stand at 9,453, and it is expected to reach 10,000 during this term. All GC members were requested to extend their support and actively encourage life membership drives in their respective zones.

**2.2 Life Membership Payments Update & Sharing of State Chapter Share:** The total amount received from Life Membership during the first half of 2024 - 2025 was ₹20,44,100, while the amount collected in the First half of the 2025 -2026 was ₹31,71,000. This represents a 55% increase in membership fee collections during the last six months. The pending state chapter shares have been proactively disbursed till 31st March 2025 and the share of last 6 months will be disbursed this month. State chapters have been instructed to do a FD of the state share and its interest can be used for their state chapter activities. The Maharashtra State Chapter received the highest share of life membership registration amount of ₹3.5 lakhs. Some states had not received their share since 2019. All pending backlogs have now been cleared, and the majority of states have received their state share. Only a few states are yet to receive their share namely, Telangana, Bihar, Jharkhand, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh. There are issues with bank account, registration and PAN card.

**2.3 Condemnation of Pahalgam Attack:** IAPSM was the first public health Association in the country to condemn the Pahalgam terrorist attack and to extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives in this tragic incident.

**2.4 Corpus Fund of Rs ₹11,11,111/- from AIIMS Bibinagar Conference:** Dr Manish briefed that an unconditional Corpus Fund of ₹11,11,111/- has been received from support of Prof. (Dr.) Neeraj Agarwal & Prof. (Dr.) Vikas Bhatia, Department of Community Medicine and Family Medicine, AIIMS Bibinagar to the National IAPSM as IAPSM Golden Jubilee National Conference Corpus Fund. The amount has been invested in Fixed deposit (FD) and interest the interest will be used for association activities.

**2.5 Darpan ID Registration:** As per NITI Aayog guidelines, all registered NGOs, including IAPSM, are required to obtain a Darpan ID. IAPSM has successfully completed the DARPAN ID registration under NITI Aayog. Additionally, form 10AB for renewal under Sections 12A and 80G of the Income Tax Act has been duly filed. These steps ensure continued compliance and recognition for charitable and tax-exempt purposes. The PAN card had a spelling mistake in Name of Association and new PAN card has been acquired. We are also in the process of renewing our registration under the Societies Registration Act. Prof. (Dr.) Atul Kotwal President Elect IAPSM offered all possible support for the same.

**Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj**  
(National President- IAPSM)

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**2.6 Closure of Parallel Accounts:** One account opened for IAPSMCON at GMC Bhopal in 2015 with IAPSM PAN card has been closed. Another account of the IAPSM Ethics Committee which has been frozen by the bank, a balance of ₹26,516 was withdrawn and transferred to the main account. DARPAN ID has been shared with Dr Rashmi- member secretary IAPSM Ethics Committee to get the held-up amount of about Rs 6000 to be released and the account to be closed. Any expenses of the ethics committee in future will be managed by Treasurer IAPSM on reimbursement basis. To ensure transparency and efficient financial management, it was decided that no parallel accounts will be maintained henceforth.

**2.7 IAPSM World Health Day National Quiz:** The IAPSM World Health Day Quiz was started in 2017. For the first time under the leadership of Prof. (Dr.) Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj, the Quiz was successfully conducted at National Level. The national winners will receive their awards during the National Conference. It was unanimously decided that from the next year onwards, the preliminary rounds at all levels will be conducted prior to World Health Day in March itself, and the National Final Round will be held on 7th April, on World Health Day. The awards will also be announced on the same day. The Governing council lauded the efforts of Dr. Akshay Minhas -National Coordinator WHD Quiz 2025. It was decided to present him a special appreciation award for his excellent coordination and smooth organization of the World Health Day Quiz at IAPSMCON 2026.

**2.8 State Level Assessment of Health Services in Maharashtra:** It is for the first time that Indian Association of Preventive and Social Medicine (IAPSM), NHSRC & Govt. of Maharashtra participated in the State-Level Assessment of Health Services in all districts of Maharashtra. This landmark event was facilitated by Prof. (Dr.) Atul Kotwal.

**2.9 Snake Bite Envenoming Prevention Workshop:** 2 workshops were held under the joint aegis of IAPSM & Foundation for People-centric Health Systems (FPHS) in Guwahati, Assam. and Trivandrum, Kerala in association with IAPSM North East Chapter & Kerala Chapter.

**2.10 Participation in National Patient Safety Conference (NPSC)-** NPSC was organised by Department of Hospital Administration, AIIMS Mangalagiri with the support of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW). Dr. B. Thirumala Rao, Joint Secretary, IAPSM, and Dr. P. J. Srinivas, Secretary, IAPSM Andhra Pradesh State Chapter were nominated to attend this conference. Dr. B. Thirumala Rao participated in a panel discussion, where he shared insights on how IAPSM can contribute to Capacity Building and Training, Community and Public Engagement, Operational Research and Evidence Generation, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Scaling Up, and Policy Support and Advocacy. IAPSM proposed the establishment of Village Patient Safety Committees (VPSC) and the introduction of Patient Safety Health Volunteers (PSHV) to strengthen patient safety at the community level.

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**2.11 A Comprehensive Report on World No Tobacco Day:** World No Tobacco Day activities were organised by esteemed members of IAPSM across the entire country. The details of all these activities were compiled into a comprehensive national report. The report was scheduled to be released in September 2025 by the Secretary, Health, Government of India. However, due to certain pressing reasons, the release was postponed and will take place in near future. This IAPSM publication presented in the form of a report book will be a significant documentation, adding value to our projection as an association.

**2.12 MOU with ICMR on One Health:** An MoU with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is currently under process. As part of this collaboration, ₹7.5 lakhs will be allocated for conducting Health Education and awareness activities across all medical colleges. Additionally, ₹2.5 lakhs will be provided as research grants. Health Education Committee, IAPSM led by Dr. SM Salim Khan - Chairperson and Dr. Shaili Vyas- Secretary will oversee the implementation of the pan India activity. It was briefed that different activities like Rally, Quiz, CME, Just A Minute -1 Min Extempore, poster / reels/ photography/ mems contest will be organised. Also, call for research proposal on One Health will be announced.

**2.13 World Breastfeeding Week- Video Contest:** A National Video-Making Competition on the occasion of World Breastfeeding Week was organized under the aegis of IAPSM in collaboration with SRHU University, Dehradun and IAPSM UP & Uttarakhand Chapter. Dr. Shaili Vyas & Dr Neha Sharma provided valuable support in organizing this activity, which was highly appreciated by all members.

**2.14 “Nutri-Culture Challenge” competition** was successfully conducted under the Poshan Maah initiative under aegis of IAPSM with support of IAPSM Jharkhand State Chapter. The activity was coordinated by Dr. Jarina Begum. The GC members were asked to encourage State Chapters in their respective zones to organize similar national-level activities under the aegis of IAPSM, ensuring that IAPSM logo and branding are appropriately included in all such activities.

**2.15 Legends ki Kahani, Unhi ki Zubani :** A new podcast series where Legends in field of community medicine will share their life journey, experiences was initiated by National IAPSM. Prof. (Dr.) Zile Singh featured in the first episode of “Legends ki Kahani, Unhi ki Zubani.” The episode received an overwhelming response from across the country. The next episode will be released featuring another distinguished personality, Prof Dr. Vikas Desai from GMC Surat, who has done commendable work in the state of Gujarat.

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**2.16 Supporting State Chapters for Online Activities** - The official IAPSM Zoom account which can accommodate about 300 members has been made available to State Chapters for organizing online programs. IAPSM UP & Uttarakhand and Jharkhand Chapters utilized the Zoom platform for the World Breastfeeding Week CME and Nutri-Culture Challenge activities. IAPSM members & state chapters who plan to conduct any online Community Medicine/Public health activity under aegis of IAPSM can be provided access to Zoom platform on request to Secretary General -IAPSM. Use of the official IAPSM logo and submission of report is mandatory.

**2.17 Announcement of FIAPSM and Oration for the year 2025-26** - The final scrutiny of applications for FIAPSM and Oration for the tenure 2025-26 was not completed by the previous Governing Council. Scrutiny was done by the appointed committee headed by Prof. (Dr.) Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj - President IAPSM and the names were announced. Consent and Fee has been collected from FIAPSM Awardee

**Agenda 3 –Approval of Meeting Minutes Governing Council Meeting held online on 21/06/2025-** The Meeting Minutes of the Governing Council Meeting held online on 21/06/2025 was unanimously approved by all Governing Council members.

**Agenda 4. Regarding Income Tax Default and Outstanding Demand:** It was briefed by Treasurer Dr Medhavi Agarwal that

1. Income Tax Department had raised an outstanding Income Tax demand of ₹30,66,994/- for the FY 2019–20 (AY 2020–21) against IAPSM. Further there are no documents available with Ex-treasurer to substantiate that the required rectification request or an appeal was being filed with the Income Tax Authorities.

2. It was noted that the Income Tax Department has also adjusted refunds of from FY 2019-20 to FY 2023-24 amounting to ₹20,01,696/-, leaving a net outstanding demand (including interest) of ₹20,74,258/- as on date.

3. Further it was observed that the Audit report in form 10BB for FY 2023-24 was not available on Income Tax Portal.

4. No appeal or update on part of IAPSM is available on the Income Tax Department portal, indicating serious lapses in statutory compliance, documentation and follow up.

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5. Due to continued non-resolution of the matter, the Association is paying interest at the rate of 12% per annum to the Income Tax Department. If corrective action is not taken urgently, a further loss of nearly ₹24 lakh is anticipated in the coming years.

6. It was noted that the same Chartered Accountant has been working for the Association since 2019 and has been paid approximately ₹1,00,000 per year, yet no effective resolution of Income Tax defaults, appeals, or rectifications was achieved.

7. The GC was informed by the current Secretary General that repeated telephonic calls, emails, and communications to the Ex-Treasurer and Ex-Secretary General went unanswered, despite the gravity of the issue. On being asked, Immediate Past Secretary General - Dr Purushottam Giri had no reply on this. As per him the financial part was being handled by Ex- Treasurer Dr Manish Rana with the CA Firm Shah & Shah Associates, Ahmedabad.

8. The GC also noted that the transfer of accounts from the previous IAPSM National Body to the present Body was not completed immediately.

9. Dr. Anna Rao Kulkarni, Immediate Past President, stated that he had objected to continuation of the Treasurer beyond the stipulated term of six years but he was not listened.

10. President Prof. (Dr.) Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj, President Elect - Prof. (Dr.) Atul Kotwal reiterated that both the Ex-Treasurer and Ex-Secretary General were jointly responsible for maintaining accounts and statutory compliance during their tenure.

11. The Governing Council unanimously placed on record its displeasure of the Ex-Treasurer Dr. Manish Rana and Ex-Secretary General Dr. Purushottam Giri for not facilitating smooth transfer of accounts, records, failure to maintain proper accounts, callous and negligent attitude towards safeguarding of the Association's funds and statutory interests.

12. The GC resolved that a competent Chartered Accountant must be finalized immediately. It was noted that a new Chartered Accountant cannot take charge unless a No Objection Certificate (NOC) is obtained from the existing Chartered Accountant.

13. The GC resolved that an appeal/rectification must be filed immediately with the Income Tax Department and reflected on the official portal. Dr Purushottam Giri was instructed for immediate corrective action and The GC resolved that the entire issue must be resolved on or before 31st October 2025.

14. The President directed that strict timeline be followed and any delay be placed before the General Body.

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## Agenda 5 Updates on Action Taken of Last GC meeting

**Agenda 5.1 Constitutional Amendment Committee:** Prof (Dr.) Atul Kotwal, Chairman, Constitutional Amendment Committee, briefed that a series of meetings have been held. The first draft of the revised constitution has been prepared and shared with Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj and Dr. Manish Kumar Singh for their review. After receiving their feedback, the draft will be circulated among all Governing Council (GC) members for further comments. There are currently three versions of the Constitution- from the years 2015, 2021, and 2024. Relevant points from the 2025 GB Meeting Minutes post ratification in the 2026 GBM will be incorporated into the revised draft before finalization. It was noted that certain amendments were made in the 2024 document, but no reference records are available from the 2015 or 2021 meetings. Some new amendments have also been proposed, which will need to be taken up in the next GBM for discussion and approval. The mode of receiving inputs for amendments will be communicated to all GBM members. Any additional suggestions received will be reviewed by the committee before submission of the final draft.

## 5.2 President Action Plan -2025-26

**5.2.1- Zonal Post Graduate Capacity Building Workshop or PG Refresher Course-**Dr Manish briefed that a dedicated team led by Dr Jarina Begum, Dr Malatesh, Dr Prachet, Dr. Rivu Basu & Dr B Thirumala Rao is working on developing content for the course. PowerPoint Presentations, Facilitator Guide, Agenda, Certificate, Banner etc. will be made available to the organising colleges along with financial support of Rs 20000/-

**5.2.2 IAPSM Research Grants for Young & Mid-Career Faculty (Assistant Professor & Associate Professor) -** A team led by Dr Medhavi Agarwal with other members is working on the guidelines. Will be shared once final.

**5.2.3- Guidelines for Life Time Achievement Award -** Guidelines are being framed by a team led by Dr Sarit Sharma. Guidelines will be shared once final.

**5.3 -Award Guidelines - IAPSM Upcoming Talent Award -** Guidelines are being framed by a team led by Dr Sarit Sharma. Guidelines will be shared once final. It was decided the respective committee chairperson to submit their recommendation to Secretary General, which will be reviewed by President & President Elect and after approval will be shared with GC for any further comments or modification. Dr. Sarit Sharma, Chairman-Awards Committee, Dr. Medhavi Aggarwal, Member Secretary of the Research Grant Committee and Dr. Rupesh Kumar, Chairman - Election Reforms Committee will be sharing their reports at earliest.

**5.4 - CREATE [Community-Based, Research oriented, Entrepreneurial and Innovative, Advance Good Health and Well-being, Transformative, Elevate] Award -** A MOU has to be drafted and guidelines for award to be decided.

**5.5 IAPSM Advocacy Committee for taking up matters related with NMC and Government:** A committee was constituted with Brigadier Prof. (Dr.) Dinesh Bhatnagar from Madhya Pradesh as Chairman and 4-5 members.

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Dr. Bhatnagar was pursuing the matter for the inclusion of Senior Resident posts in the Departments of Community Medicine across all medical colleges in the state of Madhya Pradesh. With the support of IAPSM members, he successfully pursued the matter, resulting in the sanctioning of Senior Resident positions in all Medical Colleges of Madhya Pradesh. The committee is also in the process of preparing documents for supporting our case for MD Community Medicine as an eligibility criterion for DM- Infectious Diseases. The draft proposal will be shared with all Governing Council (GC) members for review. Subsequently, Dr. Atul Kotwal and Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj will assist in taking the proposal forward with the National Medical Commission (NMC), New Delhi.

**5.6 - Framing of SOP for Elections** - A committee led by Dr Rupesh Kumar has been Entrusted the responsibility to frame SOP for fare conduct of elections. A few rounds of discussions have taken place. The committee will submit its report.

**5.7 -Internal Audit Committee:** The Internal Audit Committee was constituted with the following members Dr. Nazam Khaliq, former Head of Department, Aligarh Muslim University; Dr. Monika Aggarwal, Head of Department, KGMU Lucknow; and Prof. (Dr.) S. D. Kandpal, Head of Department, Dr. RMLIMS, Lucknow. Consent will be taken from all three members who are not part of the Governing Council (GC). If needed any other additional member may be nominated by the president -IAPSM. Dr. Annarao Kulkarni, Immediate Past President, mentioned that although the Internal Audit Committee was constituted and Audit done but there was no progress. He stressed that financial matters must always remain transparent. Dr. Manish Kumar Singh added that the audit report will be made public and shared with all IAPSM members to ensure transparency and collective awareness.

**5.8 Medical Education Cell:** It was unanimously decided that Dr. G. M. Mohammad will lead the Medical Education Cell-IAPSM, which has strong support from the PSG Coimbatore FAIMER Regional Centre. It was suggested that speakers should primarily be from IAPSM, and International / Renowned speakers from other disciplines may also be invited for the talks.

**5.9 IAPSM Textbook of Health Technology and AI & Online Courses** -A call for Expression of Interest to contribute was shared. There was a very good response and the teams are working on the content. All those who expressed interest will be accommodated based on merit.

**Agenda 6. Updates on IAPSM Young Leaders Conclave 2025** - Dr. Hemangini Shah, Organising Secretary - IAPSM Young Leaders Conclave (YLC) updated on progress and preparations of the conclave. She briefed that a total of 240 registrations have been completed till date, and an amount of ₹15 lakhs have been generated. She requested for a non-refundable support of ₹1 lakh to the Young Leaders Conclave 2025 from IAPSM. After detailed discussion, the Governing Council (GC) members approved the request. A sum of Rs 1 Lakh will be provided to YLC subject to proper accounting. Any unutilized fund will be refunded back to IAPSM. It was also suggested to reduce the number of pre-conference workshops to cut down on additional expenses.

**Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj**  
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**Dr. Manish Kumar Singh**  
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Secretariate : Department of Community Medicine, Dr RMLIMS, Lucknow, UP, 226010, India

e-mail [secygeneraliapsm@gmail.com](mailto:secygeneraliapsm@gmail.com), [www.iapsm.org](http://www.iapsm.org)



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Regarding Dr. Sushila Nair Young Leaders Orator Awards, It was decided that Independent Expert Committee will shortlist maximum 5 candidates based on merit of their nomination (maximum 03 for Category-1- Academic & Research and 02 for Category-2- Non-academic). The shortlisted candidates will make an online presentation before a minimum of 3-member Jury from the above Expert Committee. 02 best presentations (01 each from academic and non-academic category) will be awarded the Orator during the IAPSM-YLC; rest of the candidates will be awarded certificate of appreciation.

**Agenda 7 - Updates on IAPSM CON 2026** - Dr. R. C. Goyal - Organising Chairperson and Dr. Darshan, Organizing Secretary, IAPSMCON 2026 joined online and briefed regarding progress of the conference. There was total 565 registrations till date. GC members were requested to promote registrations for the conference in states in their zones. Many state chapter conferences are scheduled in coming months, it was decided to communicate to all State Presidents and Secretaries to encourage registrations for IAPSMCON 2026 in state chapter conferences.

It was requested by the GC to extend the Early Bird Registration deadline from 15<sup>th</sup> October to 15<sup>th</sup> November in first spell, and then from 15<sup>th</sup> November to 15<sup>th</sup> December in second spell. The deadline for abstract submission was also requested to be extended. It was briefed by the organizing team those Notable dignitaries such as Dr. V. K. Paul, Director AIIMS, NMC officials, and representatives from Johns Hopkins University, Myanmar, Denmark, and Sweden will be joining the conference. The Governing council assured all possible support and expressed satisfaction over preparations for the conference.

**Agenda 8. Elections For GC 2026-27** - IAPSM Elections will be conducted for the positions of National President-Elect, Governing Council Members, and Editorial Board Members for the year 2026–2027. Dr. SM Salim Khan, Vice President, IAPSM was appointed the Chief Election Officer. He will select 2 more members to be part of the election panel. The election panel will be responsible for conducting the election process, including the announcement of relevant dates and related proceedings. All members should be encouraged to actively participate and contest in the upcoming elections. The SOP for elections shared by the Election SOP committee will be shared with the election panel for discussion and finalization of the final guidelines.

**Agenda 9. Presentation of Audited Account Statement IAPSMCON 2025** - Prof (Dr.) SM Salim Khan, Organizing Chairperson- IAPSMCON 2025 was requested to submit the audited account statement of IAPSMCON 2025. He briefed that since the conference was held in this financial year, the GST returns are yet to be filed. Hence, audited report is pending. Will be shared at earliest.

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**Agenda 10.- Constitution of FIAPSM and Oration Screening Committee-** Prof. (Dr.) Atul Kotwal - President Elect was nominated Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee for Fellowships, & Orations for the year 2026-27. Applications will be invited shortly, and 30th November will be the last date for submission. All applications will first be received by the Secretary General, reviewed, and then forwarded to the Chairman Scrutiny Committee for finalisation of the names.

**Agenda 11- Updates on Indian Journal of Community Medicine- Presentation of Technical and Financial report by Chief Editor -** The GC congratulated Dr. Pankaj Bhardwaj, Chief Editor IJCM, for his appointment as Director of ICMR-National Institute for Implementation Research on Non -Communicable Diseases, Jodhpur. Dr Pankaj Bhardwaj briefed that the quality of the journal has been well maintained. A total of six issues is published each year -five have already been released this year. One supplementary issue has been published, and another is yet to be released. At present, IJCM has a balance of ₹10 lakhs in its account. The cost of publishing one supplementary issue is approximately ₹4-5 lakhs.

Merger of IJCM Accounts with IAPSM was also discussed. It was briefed by the treasurer that currently, the accounting of the IJCM journal bank account opened with the PAN card of IAPSM is maintained separately. IAPSM provides funds to IJCM. Bills and statements of expenditure, along with details of IJCM earnings are not submitted on a regular basis but at year end. It was noted that because of delay on the part of IJCM in submitting financial details, there is delay in the overall Income Tax filing of IAPSM. Accounting for 2 separate accounts under a single PAN is difficult and has led to delays in timely financial reporting and tax compliance.

Last year, IAPSM contributed ₹2.5 lakhs to IJCM, and this year, as per the decision taken in the last General Body Meeting, ₹5 lakhs were released. It was suggested that, instead of maintaining separate accounts for IJCM, IAPSM could handle all necessary payments related to the journal directly. This would ensure that accounts are maintained centrally, and all financial submissions and audits are completed on time. IAPSM can also make direct payments to *MedKnow*, which is associated with IJCM. The audit report remains common for both IAPSM and IJCM.

The IJCM ledgers have not been submitted yet for the present GC tenure. Accounting at IAPSM for the current financial year has not been completed due to the non-submission of IJCM ledgers.

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Prof. Dr. Atul Kotwal suggested that maintaining a single account would be better for income tax purposes. Dr. Pankaj Bhardwaj requested for time for better understanding on the issue. It was decided that a separate dedicated meeting should be planned to discuss IJCM's financial matters in detail.

**Agenda 12- Updation of National IAPSM Website ([www.iapsm.org](http://www.iapsm.org))** -The Governing Council was of unanimous opinion that the IAPSM website should be dynamic and regularly updated. Currently, a vendor Art Guru Infotech from Gujarat is providing services for the website. However, it was suggested to explore new vendors who can be monitored more effectively. There was elaborate discussion on selection of vendor. Various models including Technical and financial bidding following the Government's two-bid system was also discussed. Finally, there was consensus on engaging a local vendor at headquarters that could be easily regulated.

It was agreed to constitute a website management committee that can oversee the content and updation. The committee can define the Terms of Reference (TOR) for selection of a suitable vendor capable of developing an efficient, user-friendly, and easily updatable website at competitive market rates. Additionally, it was also discussed that IAPSM may also consider exploring options of agency like the Right to Vote used by IPHA for Member Information System.

**Agenda 13- Constitution of an IAPSM National Digital Media Cell-** Dr Manish Singh, Secretary General, IAPSM proposed constitution of a IAPSM Digital Media Cell for increased visibility of IAPSM across Social Media Handles. IAPSM official handle will be created on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp Channel, and other social media platforms. He suggested Dr. Mohit Makwana to lead a team of committed members to share any activity carried out under the aegis of IAPSM to be shared across all social media handles. A nodal person to be nominated by each state chapter, who will be responsible for promptly sharing updates on events (3 -4 lines of description with photos) carried out under aegis of IAPSM at the earliest, preferably within 48 hours. Posts will tag the Ministry and other relevant departments. IAPSM members can further share these posts to enhance outreach. Dr. Atul Kotwal further mentioned leveraging Indian WhatsApp Arattai and professional platforms like Twitter for wider professional engagement will improve the visibility of IAPSM association.

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**Agenda 14. Treasurer's Report on IAPSM Investments** -Dr. Medhavi Agarwal, briefed the Governing Council that IAPSM funds are presently invested in Fixed Deposits and Mutual Funds including HDFC, ICICI Prudential, SBI Credit Risk Funds, ICICI Prudential All Seasons Bond Fund, and SBI Magnum Medium Duration Fund. A marginal loss over the last three months was noted in certain mutual fund investments. The existing Hybrid Schemes include Bandhan, HDFC, Kotak, TATA, and SBI Balanced Funds. The current portfolio allocation stands at Debt – 20%, Balanced Advantage – 40%, Equity – 40%.

There was detailed discussion on the issue. Members suggested limiting equity exposure initially to 20%, with further increase to be considered later. Post Office schemes were discussed as safer alternatives. Concerns regarding accountability in case of losses were also noted.

It was decided to continue with the previous mutual funds, similar other funds may be explored and if they promise better return further investments can be done in consultation with President, President elect and Secretary General.

**Agenda 15. Regarding GST Registration** Currently, IAPSM does not have a GST registration number, and it was agreed that the society must obtain a GST number. This registration will not be for the organization as a whole but specifically for the services provided through the organization. The Life Membership registration fee is considered a corpus fund or donation, and therefore, GST will not be applicable on this fee. A similar practice is followed by IPHA, which also does not collect GST on life membership fees. However, for seminars, online courses, and postgraduate refresher courses, it was decided that GST at 18% will be applicable on registration fees.

However, for seminars, online courses, and postgraduate refresher courses, it was decided that GST at 18% will be applicable on registration fees. At present, IAPSM has been using the GST number of IIPH–Gandhinagar, where, after deducting administrative charges, the remaining amount is transferred to IAPSM. It was recommended that conference organizers should obtain their own GST number and PAN card, as funding agencies generally do not provide sponsorships without GST registration. Treasurer is currently using her address as the official correspondence address of IAPSM, which will serve as a temporary office. The address may be changed in the future, if necessary. The Governing Council (GC) approved the proposal for GST registration of IAPSM.

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**Agenda 16 Coordination Meeting with State Chapters:** It was agreed that coordination meetings should be held with state chapters for better facilitation of IAPSM national activities. Zonal Coordinators to facilitate the meetings.

### Agenda 17. Any other Issue with permission of Chair

**17.1 Adolescent Health Day:** Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj, National President, informed that IAPSM has been invited to be a part of a coalition of Association's working on Adolescent Health supported by Unicef. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India **has declared that the 18th of every month to be observed as Adolescent Health Day.** All state chapters of IAPSM are encouraged to organize activities on this day. He emphasized the need to promote and market the association's initiatives and to make collective efforts to enhance the visibility of IAPSM at all levels.

**17.2 One Uniform Name of the Subject and Association -** Dr. Ashok Kumar Bhardwaj highlighted that currently as per NMC recognition the name of the subject is Community Medicine. However, the association is registered as Indian Association of Preventive and Social Medicine based on previous recognized name of the subject by MCI. He stressed that there should be a uniform name for the association and the specialty. However, there are legal implications involved in changing the existing name. It was suggested that the association may use the name Indian Association of Community Medicine and Registered as Indian Association of Preventive and Social Medicine can be mentioned in brackets below, if there is consensus and approval by GB. It was further decided that a consensus need to be obtained during the State Chapters' meeting, and the matter to be placed before the General Body meeting for final approval. One of the GC members pointed out that there is already an existing association with the name "Indian Association of Community Medicine", and therefore, verification is required before proceeding further.

**Agenda 18. Vote of Thanks -**President-Elect Dr. Kotwal proposed a vote of thanks to all GC members for their active participation. He also expressed his gratitude to Dr Manish for the successful conduct of the GC meeting and wonderful arrangements.

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