

Annual Report of the Palaeontological Society of India for 2021-2022

Following activities of the Society have taken place during 2021-22. Most of the meetings, lectures, etc. were organized online during the period due to Covid pandemic.

Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting of the Society which was initially planned for 15th April, 2021 could not be held due to Covid pandemic.

EC Meetings

Executive Council met 4 times (3 times virtually and once in the Department of Geology, Lucknow of University) during the period.

Awards & Medals

1. Dr. Rajiv Nigam Medal

Dr. P. K. Saraswati, former Professor & Head, Department of Earth Sciences, I.I.T., Mumbai was selected for the Dr. Rajiv Nigam Medal of the Society in recognition of his outstanding contributions in the field of palaeontology for the year 2021.

2. Prof. M. R. Sahni Gold Medal

Ms. Vartika Singh of Geology Department, University of Lucknow was awarded Prof. M. R. Sahni Gold medal for 2021 for obtaining highest marks in palaeontology in M.Sc.

Lectures

1. **9th Prof. R. C. Misra Life Time Achievement Award Lecture** was delivered (online) by Dr. Shailesh Nayak, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangaluru on 19th April, 2021. The topic of lecture was "Preserving the Himalayan system: a need for co-operation".
2. **23rd Prof. S. N. Singh Memorial Lecture** was delivered (online) by Dr. S. K. Wadhawan, formerly Director General, G.S.I., Jaipur on 16th September, 2021. The topic of lecture was "Geoheritage Sites and potential Geoparks in India- Implications for Geotourism and Geoconservation".
3. **39th Prof. M. R. Sahni Memorial Lecture** was delivered (online) by Shri R. K. Srivastava, Director (Exploration), O.N.G.C., Dehradun on 27th January, 2022. The topic of the lecture was "Recent Developments in Biostratigraphy with Special reference to Hydrocarbon Exploration".

International Fossil Day (IFD) 2021

International Fossil Day (IFD) 2021 was celebrated (online) by a number of Student Chapters of the PSI in October, 2021 which had very good participation by pre University and University students, research scholars and geoscientists. Prof. M. P Singh, President, Dr. Sudhir Shukla, Vice President and Dr. V. P. Mishra, Secretary of P.S.I. while attending the deliberations briefly introduced about the 'International Fossil Day' to the participants.

- i) PSI Student Chapter, North Zone, Department of Geology, University of Delhi (Convenor: Dr. Ashutosh K. Singh) organized Technical Seminar from 8th to 13th October, 2021. 4 scientific talks were delivered by Prof. Michael Benton, Prof. Ashok Sahni, Prof. Nigel Hughes and Dr. Devapriya Chattopadhyay on *Dinosaurs, Fossils in amber, Himalayan fossils and marine microfossils*. In addition, photography, poster and quiz competitions, movie screening, short presentations and group discussions related to various aspects of fossils were also organized.
- ii) A National webinar was organized (under the aegis of P.S.I.) by Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Deccan College, Pune & Dr. Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (Convenors: Prof. A. D. Singh, Prof. B. Pandey, Prof. Vijay Sathe & Prof. P. K. Kathal) on 18th October, 2021. Prof. P. K. Saraswati, Prof. Sunil Bajpai and Dr. Vidyadhar Borkar delivered talks on *Microfossils, vertebrate palaeontology and on deciphering code language of fossils*. Students also participated in quiz programmes on fossils.
- iii) Nagpur Student's Chapter of the P.S.I. in association with Gondwaa Geological Society & Alumini Association of Dept. of Geology, RTM Nagpur University (Convenor: Prof. Sumedh Humane) organized a webinar, '*Fossils: Preserving the past for our future*' on 19th October, 2021. Dr. Rajiv Nigam, Prof. N. Malarkodi & Dr. Gaurav Srivastava delivered talks on *Foraminifera, Mass Extinction and plant fossils*. Dr. Vandana Prasad also addressed the participants.
- iv) Department of Geology, University of Madras & P.S.I. (Convenor: Prof. S. M. Hussain) organized special lectures by Dr. C. N. Ravindran, Dr. D. M. Mohabey, Ms Aswatha Biju & Dr. R. Nagendra on *Fossil parks, dinosaurs, Fossil collections and Fossil architecture* on 20th October, 2021.
- v) Department of Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh & P.S.I. (Convenor: Prof. Rajeev Patnaik) organized webinar on 21st October, 2021 and talks were delivered

by Prof. C.C. Gilbert and Dr. Biren A. Patel on *Miocene Apes and palaeoanthropology* (with 3D virtual methods).

- vi) Department of Geology, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda & P.S.I. Organized a special lecture on 21st October, 2021 by Prof. P. K. Kathal on *Microfossils & fossiliferous sites of Madhya Pradesh*.
- vii) P.S.I. (Uttarakhand Chapter) & Geoheritage Chapter (Uttarakhand) (Convenor: Dr. S. K. Parcha) organized webinar on 22nd October, 2021. Prof. P. K. Kathal, Prof. A.K.Biyani, Prof. G. K. Sharma, Dr. S. K. Parcha, Mr. R. S. Negi and Ms Annie Needham presented talks on *Various aspects of fossils and their applications*.
- viii) Pune-Mumbai Student's Chapter of P.S.I. in collaboration with Savitribai Phule Pune University (Convenor: Dr. Rajani Panchang) organised talks on 'Preservation of fossil sites and popularisation of Palaeontology' on 23rd October, 2021. Dr. Ajit Vartak, Dr. V. P. Mishra and Dr. D. M. Mohabey delivered talks on Fossils through Philately, Siwalik Fossil Park and Rahioli Dinosaur fossil site. Researchers Dr. Shweta Gurav, Dr. Amruta Paranjape & Mr. Suraj Bhosle presented the *Status of fossiliferous outcrops in Kachchh, South Indian Cretaceous and Spiti Himalaya*. A young fossil enthusiast, Ms Aswatha Biju presented her journey with fossils.

Several other geoscience centers in India also celebrated International Fossil Day 2021 by organizing well attended online lectures which indicates immense popularity of the fossil studies in the country.

New Members

Life Members	326 (including 4 joined in current year)
Honorary Member	02
Institutional Member	03
Total	331

Publication

The Society publishes *SCI Journal of the Palaeontological Society of India* biannually beside publishing special volumes and field guide books as and when required. I am happy to add that the credibility of the journal has increased and presently its impact factor is 0.7. The Society is very much thankful to the Editorial Board of the Journal for their untiring efforts in this direction. Two nos. of Volume 66 of the Journal were published and released during the year 2021.

Acknowledgments

The Society expresses its deep sense of gratitude to the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India for granting Rs. 1,50,000.00 towards publication of the Journal of the Society. The Convenors/Co-coordinators of the Student Chapters who organized the International Fossil Day at their center's on behalf of the Society are also thankfully acknowledged. The Society is grateful to Prof. Ajai Mishra, Head, Centre of Advanced Study in Geology, University of Lucknow and all the faculty members, staff and students for their help and support in all the activities of the Society. The Society feels obliged to all scientists who assisted editors in evaluating scientific contributions received for publication in the Journal of the Society. Lastly, I would also like to thank the members of the Executive Council of the Society and fellows for their help, support and guidance in the smooth functioning of the activities of the Society.

16 June, 2022

Dr. V. P. Mishra
Secretary
The Palaeontological Society of India
Centre of Advanced Study
Department of Geology,
University of Lucknow,
Lucknow-226007

THE PALAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF INDIA, LUCKNOW
(Registered under Societies Act, U.P. Govt.)
STATEMENT OF RECEIPT AND PAYMENTS
(From 1st April 2020 To 31st March 2021)

RECEIPTS		AMOUNT (Rs.)	PAYMENTS		AMOUNT (Rs.)
Opening Balances:			Honorarium to Part-Time Worker		99600.00
Balance in IOB (1867)	214852.04		Professional Fees		17400.00
Cash in hand	18795.78	233647.82	Printing & Stationery Expenses		1430.00
			Postage Expenses		21489.00
			Telephone & Internet Expenses		11217.00
Admission & Subscription Fees	82300.00		Publication Expenses		295484.00
Sale of Society's Publications	215828.00		Miscellaneous Expenses		870.00
Interest on S/B A/C	9801.00		New F.D.R.(Donation for Rajiv Nigam Medal)		200000.00
DST Grant (SERB)	150000.00		Website Maintainence Expenses		10500.00
FDR Pre-Matured during the year	361813.00		Conveyance Charges		1850.00
			Bank Charges		70.80
			Computer Expenses		2950.00
			Workshop Expenses		64537.00
			Closing Balances:		
			Cash in hand	4389.78	
			Balance in I.O.B.(1867)	321602.24	325992.02
		1053389.82			1053389.82

As per our report in form 10B of even date
For Amit Agarwal & Co.
Chartered Accountants

(CA A.K. Agarwal)
Partner

Place: Lucknow
Date: 13.07.21



For The Palaeontological Society of India

Purnima Srivastava

(Dr. Purnima Srivastva)
Treasurer

Treasurer
The Palaeontological
Society of India

V.P. Mishra

(Dr.V.P.Mishra)
Secretary

Secretary
Palaeontological Society of India
Geology Department, Lucknow
University, Lucknow-226607
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