



I S S H

Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand

Newsletter

July 1, 2019

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ISSH Executive Council

Current ISSH Council comprises of the following.

| President: | From | To |
|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ravi Mahajan | 1 st Jan, 2019 | 31 st Dec, 2020 |

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Secretary & Treasurer: Pankaj Ahire | 1 st Jan, 2019 | 31 st Dec, 2021 |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Vice President (President Elect): Mukund Thatte | 1 st Jan, 2019 | 31 st Dec, 2020 |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Immediate Past President: Ravi Gupta | 1 st Jan, 2019 | 31 st Dec, 2020 |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|

Members:

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Amit Vyas | 1 st Jan, 2017 | 31 st Dec, 2019 |
| Parag Lad | 1 st Jan, 2017 | 31 st Dec, 2019 |
| Bipin Ghanghurde | 1 st Jan, 2018 | 31 st Dec, 2019 |
| Durga Karki | 1 st Jan, 2018 | 31 st Dec, 2019 |
| Manoj Haridas | 1 st Jan, 2019 | 31 st Dec, 2020 |
| Nilesh Satbhai | 1 st Jan, 2019 | 31 st Dec, 2020 |

Trustees of ISSH Trust:

Managing Trustee:

G. Balakrishnan

Trustees:

Bhaskaranand Kumar

S. Raja Sabapathy

The Trustees of ISSH Trust are members of ISSH Executive Council as long as they remain the trustees.

Holding Hands



Dr Ravi Mahajan

Greetings from the holy city of Golden Temple, Amritsar.

It is a matter of great honour and privilege for me to be the President of our society which is nearing 50 years of its existence and has been headed by various hand surgery stalwarts of their time. India is a vast country and till now specialised hand surgery services have been available at a very few centres in the country. In order to make it possible for every citizen of this country to have access to these specialized services, it is an onerous duty of the national society to ignite interest of younger generation to take up this exciting speciality and also to train them to be able to deliver the best possible hand surgery services, wherever they are practising. The society has been making all out efforts in this direction in the form of conducting basic hand surgery courses, Mid Term CMEs and awarding various fellowships to the ISSH members. In pursuit of the same objective, this year we have adopted the theme of “Holding Hands” for the empowerment of our younger colleagues working in the periphery, to provide support to them in the form of further training and also helping them to create awareness about the importance of the speciality amongst the medical fraternity as well as the public at large. Guidelines of this program are being formulated and will soon be implemented. Following the theme of “Hand Holding”, Mid Term CME was conducted by Dr. Anil Bhat at Manipal where younger colleagues were not only given training in the workshop but also given an opportunity to present their work. Basic hand surgery course conducted by Dr. Terrence at Trichy was also an attempt in the same direction.

We had an excellent annual conference at Coimbatore in Oct 2018 and later Ganga Hand surgery operative workshop in June 2019. Ganga Hospital under the stewardship of Dr. Raja Sabapathy has been doing a monumental work as far as training of young hand surgeons is concerned, not only for India but whole of the world. As a tribute of his exceptional work in the field of hand surgery he has been elected as Secretary General of IFSSH at Berlin this year. Another moment of glory for ISSH has been the award of “IFSSH Pioneer of Hand Surgery” to Dr. G. Balakrishnan. My congratulations to both the stalwarts. I must also congratulate respected Prof. R. Venkataswami for being bestowed upon “Padma Shri” by the Government of India for his legendary work in the field of Hand Surgery. These leading lights of Hand Surgery will remain a great source of inspiration not only for us but also for the coming generations of Hand surgeons in India.

I consider myself very fortunate to be heading an extremely talented executive council including my great friend Dr. Mukund Thatte who is highly experienced and Dr. Pankaj Ahire, very hard working and dynamic person, who is poised to make history in times to come. Dr. Ahire is ably assisted by a team of young and energetic team of executive council members to help him achieve his lofty goals.

On behalf of ISSHCON 2019 I extend a warm invitation to all of you to come in large numbers to Puri to witness the academic extravaganza and great hospitality of the organizing team who are working very hard to make it a memorable event. See you all in Puri.

ISSH Secretary writes



Dr Pankaj Ahire

There is no high like being in a national team.... be it sport, be it academics. Being a secretary of ISSH is no less elating. Being able to represent India on the world stage is a pride that is overwhelming. I thank all the members of ISSH for electing me to the position of Secretary & Treasurer. In next 3 years, I will give my best to ISSH.

As ISSH nears its 50th year, it needs to embrace the digital age. Over last 6 months we have set the tone for this change. ISSH now has a new website with secure access. ISSHCON-2017 is available for all members to see on the website. Soon, ISSHCON-2018 will be uploaded.

ISSH also has an App on android and iOS platforms. The app too allows members to see ISSHCON recordings. Monthly academic updates are also available on both. Early this year ISSH has started the feature 'Sunday reads'. One classic article from Hand Surgery is posted to the members every Sunday Morning. Encourage your colleagues to join the ISSH. The entire process of application can now be completed online.

ISSH has forged important relationships with national Hand Societies of Singapore, USA, UK, Australia, Bangladesh, Srilanka. It is important for ISSH members to attend international meetings to make these ties stronger.

Upcoming APFSSH meeting in Melbourne, Australia on 11-14 March, 2020 and ASSH meeting in San Antonio, Texas, USA on 1-3 October, 2020 will be great opportunities to make our presence felt at the international stage.

ISSHCON has grown in size over the years. After an academic feast at Coimbatore in 2018, under able leadership of Dr S Raja Sabapathy, the attendee ISSH members were gifted online access to JHS Am and 'Hand e' along with physical copies of JHS AP. This is a great value for attending ISSHCON. Our strength as a society and the value of our membership, is in the number of members who attend our national conference. I sincerely urge all of you to register for the upcoming ISSHCON 2019 in Puri, Odisha on 13-15 September, 2019.

Upcoming elections of ISSH will have Executive Council members to be elected. This is an opportunity for members to make a difference. ISSH needs council members who can contribute to the collective goal of making ISSH stronger both in numbers & governance.

Beyond the timelines



Dr Mukund Thatte

Dear Members,

I thank you for electing me as the President Elect 2021. It is an honour and a responsibility which I will try and fulfil to the best of my ability. I am fully supportive of the current President's vision of 'Holding Hands' for budding Hand Surgeons in non-metro areas and will be an enthusiastic participant in the coming year.

My vision is to extend this strategy on a continuing basis, till Hand surgery becomes a recognised subspecialty, if not at Government level, at least amongst the medical fraternity. We need to be spread wide and deep and like some sister associations internationally our website ought to have a 'Find a Hand surgeon near you' feature by then.

I also want to make our conference different by surveying our membership, identifying pain points in learning and addressing them effectively during the meeting and the midterm CME.

There will be other ideas and I will share them with you via the newsletter. Till then I will be happy to receive feedback on these issues that I have raised.

Regards and best wishes,
Mukund R Thatte

Reminiscence of my times in the Chair



Prof Ravi Gupta

It was a privilege for me to hold the prestigious office of the President of ISSH from 2017 to 2019. I took over the office from my predecessor Prof PP Kotwal in Ranchi in 2017. Although getting into his shoe was an almost impossible task for me, but the mentoring provided to me during my Vice President tenure by Prof Kotwal, Prof Balakrishanan, Prof Bhaskaranand, Dr Sabapathy and other seniors helped me tremendously to discharge the duties. The dynamic support of the then Secretary and Vice President– Dr Nehete and Dr Ravi Mahajan respectively made my task much easier.

During the tenure of our executive, the ISSH bubbled with huge activities. Our routine annual activities including the annual conferences of the year 2018 (Mumbai) and the year 2019 (Coimbatore) were huge successes. Coimbatore, being always perceived by me as Mecca of Hand Surgery of our country, though was expected to host the conference of the highest stature, Mumbai conference was equally impressive. In fact, the efforts of Mumbai team deserve a real applause because the members of the team did not belong to one institution. The success of such a team with one voice needs to be learnt and emulated by future organizers. The other routine activities including the two CMEs organized at Amritsar and Jaipur under the leadership of Dr Ravi Mahajan and Dr Amit Vyas respectively were also highly successful. All the events during our tenure were overflowing with not only the academic activities but the social interactions and local hospitality were also unmatched.

During the two years of our tenure, we were able to start monthly academics with help from Dr Praveen Bhardwaj, Dr Abhijit and Dr Tariq. The trio deserves a real pat on their back from the ISSH for their untiring efforts. This academic activity has gained further heights now with the dynamic push of our beloved present Secretary.

We had also envisaged that ISSH must also provide education to the patients about the hand diseases through our website. But the concrete shape to this idea was given by the present team. This is a perfect example of taking the torch ahead from the previous players which is so unique to the ISSH.

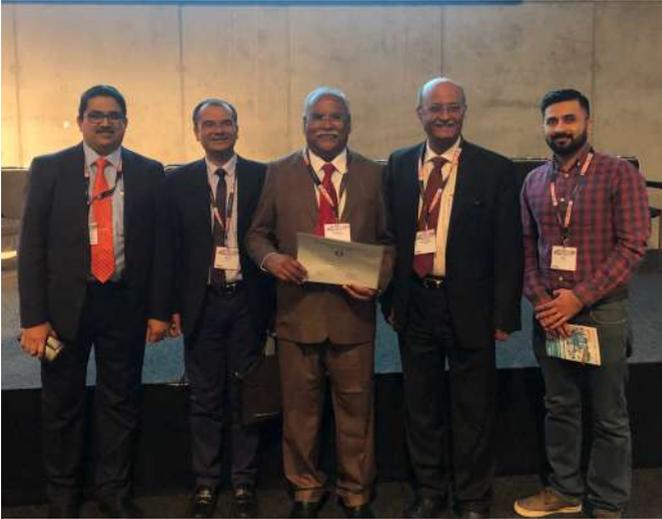
For the future, I feel that the membership drive needs to be further strengthened. The digitalization of our activities has already gained a good momentum with the introduction of the ISSH app by the present team. Another important component that requires to be strengthened by us is the research by our members. India has huge clinical material. We just need to start routinely storing our clinical data in an organized manner. And then interpreting and presenting our data at the national/ international forums will help the hand surgery to improve further. We must remember that the professional stature of any country at the international fora is assessed only on the basis of the published and the presented work in the international journals and conferences/ meetings.

In the concluding remarks, I would like to mention that I am highly satisfied of my stay in the President's office but the credit for this goes to the team of the dynamic executives who were instrumental in executing the team vision, and of course to the wisdom and guidance of our seniors. I hope and wish that the future leaders bearing the torch of ISSH will take the organization to the farther levels. I shall be more than pleased to work as a humble member of any team work assigned to me by the future leaders of this great organization.

IFSSH, Berlin 2019



In Pictures



The Indian contingent with the IFSSH Pioneer of Hand Surgery Awardee, Prof G. Balakrishnan



Outside the magnificent venue, Berlin City Cube



In great Company



The privileged table

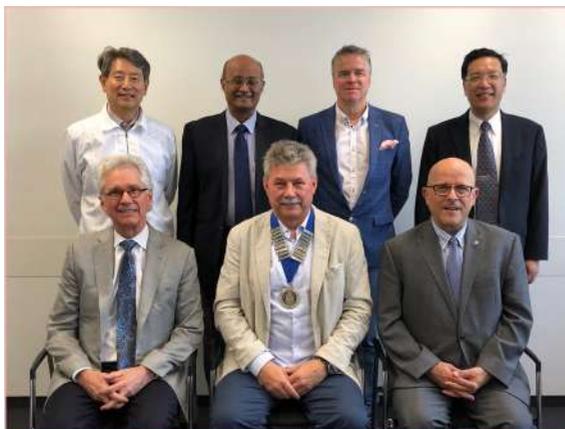
India at International fora



Dr. S Raja Sabapathy

We are just back from the IFSSH – IFSHT meeting at Berlin. For those who attended the Berlin, it also brought in memories of India hosting the same meeting in New Delhi in 2013. For the first time, IFSSH meeting was also combined with the European meeting (FESSH and FESHT). So, it had a record attendance of 4000, of which 2200 were from Europe and 1800 were from the other continents. At the IFSSH delegates meeting held on 19th June, 2019, I was formally elected as the Secretary-General Elect of the IFSSH. This, I consider as a great honour for Indian Hand Surgery. This responsibility also gives us an opportunity to promote the cause of Hand Surgery throughout the world.

The officers of the IFSSH for the 2019 – 22 will be:



Dr Marc Gracia Elias,
Spain (*President*),
Dr Daniel Nagle, USA
(*President Elect*),
Dr Goo Hyun Baek, South
Korea (*Secretary-General*),
Dr S Raja Sabapathy, India
(*Secretary-General Elect*),
Dr David Warwick, UK
(*Historian*),
Dr Jin Bo Tang, China
(*Member at large*),
Dr Zsolt Zsabo, Hungary,
(*Imm. Past President*).

At the same meeting Washington DC, USA was chosen as the venue for the 2025 IFSSH congress. Scott Levin presented the bid for the USA and the other competing nations were Brazil and Colombia. After the Delhi 2013 meeting, an order of rotation was established and the 2025 venue was to be in the Americas. It is a privilege to be part of a dynamic EXCO of IFSSH, with all members keen on working for the charter of the IFSSH. When the new EXCO met on 21st June, 2109, we discussed a great deal on changing the bye laws to make more room in the council to fulfil the aspirations of many countries and to make changes to shorten the time the people will be spending in the council.

It was an encouraging spectacle to see the growing size of India's participation in both the recently conducted WSRM meeting in Bologna, Italy and the IFSSH at

Berlin. It is essential that this trend continues which will serve as an impetus for the growth of the speciality in the country and also showcase to the world what we do.

In the coming year, we will have the opportunity to participate in two major international meetings – one the **Asia Pacific Meeting (APFSSH) at Melbourne from the 11th to 14th March, 2020**. Dr Antony Berger, the organizing Chairman and his team are doing their utmost to make it a memorable meeting. The theme of the meeting is ‘**Hand Surgery and the Digital Revolution**’ and it is going to have much exciting material. At this meeting, I will take over as the President of the Federation, the first time ever for a representative from India to lead the Federation since the first congress held in Perth in 1997. I have chosen the theme for the Presidency to be ‘**Providing Quality Hand Surgery care for the Millions who are less privileged**’. I know it is a lofty goal, but I strongly believe in Wipro Chief Azim Premji’s words, *‘If people are not laughing at your goal, then your goal is too small’*.

The second meeting in which again we have to participate in large numbers is the **75th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Surgery of the Hand to be held in San Antonio from Oct 1-3, 2020**. For this meeting, the President of the ASSH Dr Martin Boyer has announced that India will be Guest Nation of the ASSH. This again is the first time India has been invited to be the Guest nation to the American Hand Society. Dr Boyer through his initiative has helped the members of the ISSH to have special access to the Journal of Hand Surgery and the whole wealth of knowledge that is present in their Hand e. You will shortly know the special privileges available to us as the member of the Guest Society. Meanwhile please block the dates 11th to 14th March, 2020 and 1st to 3rd Oct, 2020 in your calendar to participate in both the meetings.

The EC Speaks:

After they were elected to the Executive Council of the ISSH, the EC members worked in silence away from the limelight. Here is what they feel like sharing with you.

Dr Parag Lad



EC Member

1st Jan 2017 - 31st Dec, 2019

It was my 6th ISSH annual conference since 2009 happening at Ranchi. I was excited in conference as few days back I had applied for EC post to secretary, ISSH.

After got elected, I was involved in a very closed-door meeting of EC which was attended by President, President elect, trustees, secretary and other EC members. For the first time, I was collecting words of wisdom from the senior most authorities who were actually running ISSH. There was lot to learn in those two-hours meeting.

I knew during three years of tenure; I shall be involved probably six times in such meetings. But unfortunately, I wasn't aware of my responsibility being EC member. I was noting down all the points & discussions, which later I complied to one-word document to submit to secretary to prepare report.

First year got over like first MBBS. Second year of my EC tenure, I was understanding system much better but again observing other senior EC member's academic participation. Second year of EC was like second MBBS. Now, in third term, I am actually involved in sharing my thoughts to seniors, I am given duties to perform & I have understood in what way I can still make a term of EC valuable.

I feel, every new elected EC member should be given a role or job with time frame by looking at his personal interest. Someone may be good at academics or web management or data collection or finance or conducting courses etc. under first leadership of Hon. Secretary of ISSH.

If it happens this way, then every EC member will be known for his job or deed in the history of ISSH rather than working on random thinking for the constitution.

Dr Bipin Ghanghurde



EC Member

1st Jan 2018 - 31st Dec, 2019

I was elected as an EC member in 2017 Mumbai conference, which I think was a privilege. It came as a shock and awe for me to be in the EC of one of the most prolific society of the world. My 1st year of EC was much of learning, confusion and taking down notes. Currently, I am in my 2nd tenure and I think this will be the last year. I have learnt many things. The responsibilities given to me as an EC in my initial year were too less and I received work only in my 2nd tenure on which I am working on. I think even after I finish my tenure I will have to be a part of the work till it ends and pass the baton to the newly elected members.

I would advise the new members that try and understand the working of EC as quickly as possible so that you will be able to help the society the most. The secretary is ECs driving force and his experience matters just follow him like a sheep.

In the end, I would like to thank all the council members who helped and guided me during my tenure.

Dr Manoj Haridas



EC Member

1st Jan 2019 - 31st Dec, 2020

I have come to the EC of ISSH as a surprise even to me. Every person has his or her strength and I think for me, it may be in the form of some academic contribution rather than leadership or organisational skills, which I would have cherished if I had. Things which are going through my mind, are those areas of insufficiency which I have been experiencing in my practice of hand surgery for the past 15 years. If ISSH has a directory of these compiled from the great leaders' experience, any junior especially practicing in remote corners of the country can access it. These include

1) The type of most appropriate splints and how to make or how to procure it, like for e.g., sugar tong for a TFCC injury, a boutonniere splint, mallet splint.

We know that each surgeon may be using different one. So, what we can do is, like in Greens text book, authors preferred technique, "ISSH recommended splints and availability"

2) ISSH accepted therapy regimens at least one, for flexor tendon, extensor tendon and so on...

3) 10 great hand surgeons can list their preferred No 15 surgical blade company in terms of sharpness; Common suture materials we use in hand; Loupe; Microscope etc. and 1 word why it's their choice.

4) It would be nice if we have protocol sheets to fill up when we see a patient with common clinical conditions. For e.g. Carpal tunnel syndrome standard questionnaires, pre-op documentation etc. Camptodactyly physical tests to be done etc.

The aim is as time pass by, we will have an excellent academic compilation, which can later come out as a publication "ISSH text book of functional hand surgery", which incorporates all dimensions of Hand.

My suggestion is among 6 EC members 1 or 2 can orient their attention in this field to fill up lacunae of deficiencies during their tenure. They can also approach past people for guidance and help.

This is my feeling as an ISSH EC member, and I feel an area where I will try, if others also encourage me.

Thanks Pankaj

Thanks to my mentors and fellow EC members.

Manoj Haridas

Dr Nilesh G. Satbhai



EC Member

1st Jan 2019 - 31st Dec, 2020

It's a matter of great happiness and pride for me to write this message. First of all, I will thank the general body and ISSH members to elect me as an EC member of ISSH.

ISSH is a rapidly growing and dynamic organisation. Our strength is on the rise. And it is now that we need to work hard to set our protocols and administrative procedures for long term benefit of generations to come. A lot needs to be done for awareness, patient education and advocacy of Hand Surgery in India. The Executive council is in the process of forming a long-term plan to address these issues.

Working with our seniors has been a wonderful learning experience. Working with Dr. Pankaj Ahire, our dynamic Secretary has been a pleasure. Our website and App are getting more useful and enriched. Soon we are coming up the official merchandise of ISSH, which all of you will be proud to own. The upcoming ISSHCON 2019, in Puri, for the first time, we will have our ISSH stall, which must be visited by all members for various attractions.

I urge all members to actively participate in all the activities of the ISSH.
"Be the change you want to see in the world"

See you soon.
Jai Hind..!

Dr. Nilesh G. Satbhai.

ISSH Activities:

Since the last newsletter in August 2018, following academic activities were conducted by ISSH:

- ISSHCON 2018 – 42nd Annual Conference of ISSH was held at Coimbatore, under the leadership of Dr S Raja Sabapathy as the Organising Chairman.
- ISSH Basic Hand Surgery Course – **Dr Bhaskaranand Kumar**, many years ago embarked on the idea of Basic Hand Surgery course, which till today has covered most regions in the country.

Here is what he says about this course:



‘In my presidential address at Kochi ISSH conference, I had suggested the idea of conducting Basic Hand Courses at many parts of the country so that young surgeons will take up interest in specialty of hand surgery and render service to the needy. I could conduct more than 30 such courses not only in various parts of our country but also at Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

The course is of two days duration and touches up on management of acute emergencies in hand surgery. Even first aid wound closure, dressing, plastering and splint are touched upon. The course does not teach micro surgery or advanced flap.

The organizer need to look after the travel and accommodation of the faculty (may be four or Five) local faculty if available may be chosen. The delegates may be senior post graduates from general surgery, orthopaedics, plastic surgery or junior surgeons. Organizer sees that the delegate fee is kept to the minimum. Only working lunch could be provided. No dinners. This will be conducted under ISSH banner, but no financial help is needed.’

This year the course was held in April 2019 at Trichy, with Dr J. Terrence Jose Jerome as the Local Convener.

- ISSH Mid Term CME 2019 – ISSH for years had only one major academic event throughout the year. 5 years ago, 1st Midterm CME was organized by Dr Prakash Kotwal in Delhi. This year the 5th Midterm CME was conducted in a grandiose manner in all aspects by Dr Anil Bhat, at Kasturba Medical College, Manipal.

❖ ISSHCON 2018 - Message from the Organising Chairman

Dear All,

Greetings to you from Ganga Hospital. I am writing this as the Chairman on behalf of all the members of the Organizing Committee of the ISSHCON 2018 which we had the privilege to host. We hosted ISSHCON earlier in 1997 and the moments of the meeting with eminent faculty is still etched in our memory. This 2018 meeting is no different because of the presence of all of you, the excellent faculty, scintillating orations and invited lectures and fellowship. In all we had 374 registrations, 12 prominent overseas faculty, 15 surgeries performed in the live workshop, 6 master classes which had full attendance even at 7 30 am.



In 1997, we made a saving to the society than ever before. The idea of orations emanated after the 1997 Coimbatore conference. In 2018, we have repeated the performance with a surplus of close to **Rs 37 lakhs**. This time we face more tax commitments and after making an allowance for them we hope we will get about **Rs 31 lakhs** which we will be able to provide to the society.

The organizers of the ISSHCON 2017, led by Pankaj Ahire made a wonderful gesture of providing free subscriptions to the Hand Surgery Journal of the Asia Pacific Federation to all the ISSH members who attended the meeting out of the surplus of the 2017 ISSH meeting. In all 136 copies were ordered for supply to



the delegates who were members of the ISSH. To keep the costs down, we had the bulk shipment from the publishers in Singapore to the ISSH headquarters at Ganga Hospital and our staff individually repacked and sent them to the individual members by Registered post. This was done four times a year. The journal is of good value for money and is getting better in size and contents.

This time, we intend to provide even more value for the members of the ISSH who attended the ISSHCON 2018. In addition to the subscription to the Asia Pacific Journal we thought of providing subscription to another international journal. We thought of the premier Journal of Hand Surgery (American). The Individual subscription rate is **US \$ 594**. It is published 12 times a year and reading that is a great way to keep up to date with the trends and advances that happen in Hand surgery. We expressed our wish to the President Elect of the ASSH DR Martin Boyer and he took upon himself to speak to the council. I told them that we could afford US \$ 100 per subscription and wanted to provide us a deal as best as possible. Dr Boyer and the CEO of ASSH Mr Mark Anderson forcefully put our case and finally they were able to get us what I would say a ‘bonanza’, for every member who attended the ISSHCON 2018. Each would get

1. One year (2019) full on-line subscription to the Journal of Hand Surgery (American). *It is almost impossible to get print version since we may have*

to spend more just for the postage than what we give. Further so much of the journal material is online that this by itself is a great offer.

2. Full access to the members to all the back issues of the Journal from the Volume 1 to the present
3. **Most important they will also give full access to Hand e, which is a repository of wealth of information on hand surgery, videos, books and all related material.**
4. This will be available for one year from Jan 2019.
5. This will be routed through the e mail that the members provide.

This has been possible because of the personal involvement and efforts of DR Martin Boyer and Mr Mark Anderson and their friendship.

We will make this available to all the members of the ISSH who attended the ISSHCON 2018. Providing both the subscriptions will cost us around Rs 17 lakhs and we will still provide about Rs 14 lakhs to the corpus of the ISSH.

Questions may be raised about the decision or the recommendation of this proposal. The reason is this.

1. It is time we raise the status of the Indian Hand Surgery to the Global level. The first step towards that is access to information. Information made available legally and in a just way. We have about 140 ISSH members who have attended the Coimbatore meeting. Many are young. For them it will be a great experience. Access to **Hand e** will show them what an association could do to their members and the way we have to improve ours.

I am keen on official access to information. A decade ago due to the personal friendship with a senior executive of Elsevier we got internet access to the European Hand Surgery journal for US \$ 10. At that time with the \$ at about Rs 45 it was virtually nothing. We thought that we will have hoard of people subscribing. We could muster just 20 subscriptions. Still Elsevier gave it on a trial basis and gave a password for access. But at the end of the year when I met the executive of Elsevier in an international conference, he said that the journal was accessed in more than 220 different systems and sites by sharing of the password. In

utter embarrassment to both of us the offer was taken off the next year. By what we offer will provide genuine access to information to people.

2. We believe that this offer will promote more people to write. I requested one of my registrars to take the total number of articles published by Indian units in mainstream Hand journals in 2018. We took the American, (both JHS and Hand of AAHS), European, Asia Pacific, and Techniques in Hand and Upper Extremity Surgery. In the five journals a total of **690** articles have been published in the year 2018. **Of this only 4 articles are from India. 2 original articles, one case report and one techniques article. Just 4 /690!!!** A very poor representation of the work we do. We do sincerely hope that access to information, finding as to what is being written and how it is written will enthruse people to write. This is important to bring Indian Hand surgery to the global stage.

3. We also strongly believe that we need to provide value to membership. We are moving to the system of yearly membership and when implemented perhaps we will be the first of the professional organizations in medicine in India to adopt this. We should make ISSH a role model organization with active membership. Attending annual meeting by itself is a commitment. More the delegates more it is easy for the organizers to organize, more sponsors come in, we can get more and better speakers – it is in all a positive cycle. People who attended the ISSHCON get more than the delegate fees they paid.

4. Savings from conferences get value only when well spent. I invite you all to provide good ideas as to how we can spend our money. Anand Mahindra, a noted industrialist in an interview said that in India there is ‘Poverty of Aspiration’. I think this is secondary to poverty of ideas. Please provide great ideas for the EC to deliberate as to how we can spend our money to improve the status of hand surgery education, research and patient care in our country.

5. We are able to provide this great offer only to the members who attended the conference. We wish we can give it to all but our finances will not allow it. So when we have to choose we feel that it is best to give it to members who came. It will be interesting to note that of the 374 registrations only 145 are ISSH members. It is a call to the others to become members.

6. Will this type of offers be given all the years? We can't assure that. But what we can assure is that we can continue the offer if we are able to get sufficient numbers (at least as much as this time next year). I sincerely hope that all those who enjoyed the subscriptions for the last two years will step forward and subscribe by themselves if we are not able to provide such offers from the organizing committees in future. Subscriptions to both the journals put together will cost just over Rs 12000.

7. It is the vision of the Organizing Committee of the ISSHCON and the EC of ISSH, that by our efforts we place India on a prime position in the Hand Surgery map of the World. This effort is a small step towards the goal.

DR S Raja Sabapathy Dr Hari Venkatramani Dr Ravindra Bharathi
Dr Praveen Bhardwaj Dr Senthilkumaran Dr Sanjai Ramkumar
Dr Madhu Periaswamy Dr R Raja Shanmugakrishnan
Dr Kannan Balaraman Dr Vimala Ramani

❖ ISSH Basic Hand Surgery Course 2019, Trichy – Report

Gaining knowledge is the first step to wisdom. Sharing it, is the first step to humanity. Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand (ISSH) has always remained forefront in taking the first step in imparting the Basic Hand surgery Skills, Hands on workshop, Saw Bone drills, knowledge and technical prowess masterly organized in a systematic manner. ISSH has joined hands on this driving edification propulsion with Indian Orthopaedic Association, Orthopaedic Association of South Indian States and Tiruchy Ortho Club to organize ISSH Basic Hand Surgery Course at the Hotel Sangam, Tiruchirappalli, on April 6th and 7th 2019.



Martin Luther King Jr said, “A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus, but a moulder of consensus”. Prof Anil K Bhat who is one such great leader with passion and promising vision towards Hand surgery mission convened the course along with 19 other savant national faculty to a grandeur.

More than 150 zealous delegates from Tamilnadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Pondicherry, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh participated in this course with deliberations and brilliant interactions. Good times became of this event became eternal thoughts of tomorrow.



Tamilnadu medical council has granted 6 credit hours to this course.

I conclude with Dr APJ Abdul Kalam quote “Excellence is a continuous process.” ISSH will excel to excellence.

-Dr. J. Terrence Jose Jerome
Organizing Secretary, ISSH Basic Hand Surgery Course, Trichy-2019

❖ ISSH Mid Term CME 2019 - Report

The 5th Mid-Term CME of Indian Society for the Surgery of Hand (ISSH), was held by the Department of Orthopaedics, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal. This was conducted at Manipal on the 27th and 28th of April 2019 and was organized by Dr. Anil K. Bhat, the organizing chairman and Dr. Ashwath Acharya as the organizing secretary.



The theme of the CME was “Holding hands”, based on Presidential theme by Dr Ravi Mahajan, President, ISSH of mentoring junior faculty.

Hence, the scientific program was enriched by a galaxy of faculty from all over India especially majority being young first-time faculty. Overseas international faculty included Dr. Andrew Smith from UK, Sandeep Sebastian and Dr Soumen Das De from Singapore.

The program comprised of lectures on evidence based practice guidelines for common problems in hand and video demonstration of commonly performed surgical procedures. There was an interesting session on decision making protocols involving junior and senior faculty where the junior faculty spoke on evidence based information with rejoinder of long term experience by a senior faculty.

Post-graduate teaching on clinical examination modules of common hand cases kept in the exams and a well appreciated quiz contest arranged by Dr. Rohan Habbu and Dr. Kiran Sasi was conducted apart from a hands-on workshop on distal Radius fracture fixation.



The highlight of the CME was the felicitation of the eminent senior faculty of the ISSH Dr. G Balakrishnan, Dr. Bhaskaranand Kumar, Dr. S Raja Sabapathy and Dr. Mukund Thatte for their valuable contribution as teachers of Hand Surgery.

The CME program was commemorated by release of a painting on the theme of ‘Holding Hands’ painted by Dr. Sheeja Rajan from Calicut.



- Prof Anil Bhat, Organising Chairman
- Dr Ashwath Acharya, Organizing Secretary

ISSH Endorsed events:

- ISSH members with keen interest in academics conduct events in their cities for the benefit of Orthopaedic & Plastic Surgeons with interest in Hand Surgery. Such events are endorsed by ISSH to facilitate accreditations.
- Three such events were held in last 6 months. Following are the reports from the organisers of these events.

❖ A Day with Prof Steven Moran at Mumbai



It was an honour to host Dr Prof Steven Moran from the Mayo Clinic as the visiting ASSH professor. He was gracious to spend a day in Mumbai as the guest speaker for the CME on “Advances in Hand & Wrist Surgery”, held on October 2nd, 2018. This was a MMC accredited academic event attended by over 90 delegates at Nanavati Super Specialty Hospital, Mumbai.

Our senior faculty and the delegates had an enriching experience as he shared his work on tendon and wrist. We look forward to more such endeavours with Dr Moran. Apart from academics, we indulged him in some traditional Indian cuisine and hospitality. We wish him and the ASSH best regards.

❖ Delhi Orthopaedic Association – Hand Course

The Hand Course of Delhi Orthopaedics Association was organised by Delhi Orthopaedics Association (DOA) and under aegis of Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand (ISSH) on 19th May 2019 at The Park Hotel New Delhi.

It was a course intended for young Hand Surgeons as well as post graduate students to upgrade their clinical skills as well as their practical knowledge. Recent advances in hand surgery were included for the benefit of practicing hand surgeons.

It was attended by more than 120 delegates from all over the country, who participated in discussions with full enthusiasm and vigour. It was full capacity attendance right from 9 am till 6 pm in the evening.



For the benefit of post graduates, topics like examination of hand in nerve injuries, radiological examination of wrist and live demonstration of wrist examination were included. Topics like arthroscopic assisted fixation and bone grafting, arthroscopic TFCC repair and trans-scaphoid perilunate dislocation attracted senior colleagues.

Eminent Faculty from all over the country showed keenness to impart knowledge to their young colleagues through lectures, case discussion, panel discussion as well as teaching and training during hands-on workshops. The Prominent Faculty included Prof. P P Kotwal (New Delhi), Dr. Vikas Gupta (New Delhi), Prof. Anil Dhal (New Delhi), Prof. Anil Bhat (Manipal), Dr. Violaine Beauthier (Paris, France), Dr. Amitabh Lahiri (Singapore), Dr Akram Jawed (New Delhi), Dr Amit Vyas (Jaipur), Dr Vineet Dabbas (New Delhi) Dr Ajeet Tiwari (Kanpur), Dr Mohd. Tahir (New Delhi), Dr Rashmi Chopra (Gurugram), Dr Abhishek Sharma (New Delhi), Dr Vivek Jhangira (New Delhi) and Dr Vishal Jain (New Delhi).

The most highlighting feature of the course was hands-on bio skill workshop on scaphoid screw fixation and tight rope fixation for 1st CMC joint on bone models. For the first time in India variable angle compact hand was introduced and hands on workshop for fracture fixation using these implants on bone models. Overall it was a successful course, appreciated by all attendees as well as faculty

Convener: Dr. Vikas Gupta
Co-Convener: Dr. Akram Jawed

❖ Indo Japan Hand Meet - April 6th 2019

“Learning is not attained by choice, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence.

“The Journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

The Indo- Japan International Hand Surgery meet a first of its kind in the Indian Hand surgery history was one single step and a prestigious endeavour where learning was sought for between our nations.

“1st Indo Japan Hand Surgery Meet” was organized under the auspices of Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand, Indian Orthopaedic Association, Orthopaedic Association of South Indian States, Tamilnadu Orthopaedic Association and Tiruchy Ortho Club.

As Swami Vivekananda quotes ““Great works are to be done, wonderful powers have to be worked out, we have to teach other nations many things... This is the motherland of philosophy, of spirituality, and of ethics, of sweetness, gentleness, and love. These still exist, and my experience of the world leads me to stand on firm ground and make the bold statement that India is still the first & foremost of all the nations of the world in these respects.”

This was one such prestigious endeavour where Incredible India shared its prodigious knowledge and colossal experience in the field of Hand surgery with Japan. We are all truly proud of our excellence at par with the West and US

“Few delights can equal the mere presence of one whom we trust utterly. The Honourable Governor of Tamilnadu Shri Purohit Banwarilal’s cheerful presence as “Chief Guest” for the meet honoured conglomerated with grandeur and ceremonial and also by his matchless thoughts and greatest path of influence.

A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle. Sharing your knowledge is a way to achieve immortality. Prof Dr. Yoshitaka Hamada and Kouji Minamikawa who had come inclined with enthusiasm to share Hand surgery expertise, technical skills and nuances with us. Thus, this meet engendered a transferable commodity-knowledge with an everlasting legacy between the two nations.

Surround yourself with strong, positive, motivated and supportive people more specifically our President of the ISSH, Secretary of the ISSH, Prof Bhaskaranand Kumar, Prof. G. Balakrishnan, Dr. S. Raja Sabapathy, who were all been very supportive and instrumental in making this endeavor happen to happen. The meet

had witnessed a huge attendance of 300 and more distinguished doctors, experts from varied specialties, press and media persons, police personnel's, government officials and NGOs.

Honorable Governor of Tamilnadu, an admirable human being with Spartan lifestyle, an eminent educationist, a renowned social activist and nationalist thinker delivered his disquisition on Hand Surgery and health care in India and his recent visit to Japan. This meet beholds the Head of state of Tamilnadu (Governor) distributing life time achievement awards to our Hand surgery pioneers.

1. Prof G. Balakrishnan for his contribution in the discipline of Hand Surgery and an IFSSH pioneer of Hand surgery
2. Dr S. Raja Sabapathy for his contribution in the discipline of Hand surgery for inspiring teaching and mentoring of numerus students, for individual and collaborative research contributions, for significant contribution to the growth of Hand Surgery in India.

The meet ended with a beginning

- Dr. J. Terrence Jose Jerome
Convener Indo-Japan Hand meet, Trichy 2019

Upcoming ISSH Events

43rd Annual Conference of the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand ISSHCON 2017, Puri, Odisha, India

Organising Chairman's Message:

Dr Arun Kumar Choudhury



Dr Subrat Kumar Jena

Dear Colleagues,

As Chairman of the Organising Committee, it is a great privilege for us to welcome you to the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Indian Society for the Surgery of the Hand (ISSH). The venue is the erstwhile sea-side holy city of Jagannath Puri on the eastern coast line of Odisha, the Soul of India. Known for its pristine ambience, captivating location, perennial atmosphere of festivity, Puri is the chosen site for an optimum mixture of relaxation, sightseeing, sunbathing, Jagannath darshan and of course, academics. Welcome one and welcome all with family and friends. Bhubaneswar is the nearest airport located at an hour's drive to Puri through lush green vegetation on either side of the road. The city of Bhubaneswar, the smartest of the smart cities has adorned a grand new look in the run up to the World Cup hockey games. You certainly deserve a glance of this new sports capital of India.

Coming to the academics, we have lined up a great scientific feast to satiate your appetite for knowledge exchange. The orators and speakers have been selected with great diligence to avoid repetition of the subjects and contents of the immediate past conferences. It has been decided to give more podium time to our younger colleagues doing great work all over the country. There shall be proportionate participation of Orthopaedic turned Hand Surgeons as well as Plastic Surgeons focusing on Hand Surgery. Hand therapists' participation will complement the scientific event. We are known for our hospitality. The visits and repeat visits of our guests from all specialities to participate in national and international conferences held in Odisha bear testimony to this statement. Many of them are lined up in Odisha this year itself. Let's be the to savour the taste of Odisha. Our team of organisers are eagerly waiting to welcome you. Jay Hind.

Message from Organising Secretaries of ISSHCON 2019

Prof. (Dr.) Biswajit Sahu



Dr Biswajit Mishra

Dear Members of ISSH,

It gives us immense pleasure in inviting you to the 43rd Annual Conference of the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand "ISSHCON-2019" scheduled to be hosted at the holy city of Puri between 13th & 15th September 2019. We would like to thank all the members of the ISSH for giving us this opportunity to host the event. The conference is being jointly hosted by the Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons of Odisha (APRASO) and Odisha Orthopaedic Association (OOA).

The theme of the conference is "Evidence in Hand Surgery Practice".

The conference starts with video workshop on 12th September followed by one full day CME (13th) and main conference (14th & 15th). The 7th Annual National Conference of Society for Hand Therapy (ISHT) will be held simultaneously on 13th and 14th September.

The following eminent international faculties have confirmed their participation in ISSHCON 2019. Dr. Scott Oishi (USA), Dr. Hidehiko Kawabata (Japan), Dr. Chaitanya S. Mudgal (USA), Dr. Wolfgang Huber (Austria), Prof. Amit Tolat (UK) and Damir Kosutic (UK).

The prestigious Prof. R. Venkatswami and Prof. B. B. Joshi Orations will be delivered by Dr. Hidehiko Kawabata (Japan) and Dr. Scott Oishi (USA) respectively.

Looking forward to meeting you at Puri.

For details contact

Dr. Biswajit Sahu (9437314789)

Dr. Biswajit Mishra (9668637565)

Dr. Sanjay Giri (9438884117)

Mail us at isscon2019@gmail.com

Visit us at www.isscon2019.org

Fellowships:

ISSH offers following Fellowship Opportunities to its members:

❖ Dr Robert Acland - S&T International Travelling Fellowship of ISSH

Number of Fellowships: 1

Terms & Conditions:

- The applicant must have been a member of the ISSH for at least 7 years.
- He must have attended at least 3 annual meetings of the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand in the past 7 years.
- Past recipients of this fellowship are not eligible to apply.
- The applicant must be present & registered for ISSHCON at the time of announcement of the fellowship.
- The application, supported by a CV should be received by Email (secretary@isssh.org) at least one month before the annual GBM or by 15th August of the respective year, whichever is earlier.
- The fund could be utilized by the Fellow for attending an International Hand & Microsurgery meeting to present a paper and / or spend a few weeks in a reputed centre with prior concurrence of the Executive Committee of the Indian Society for Surgery of the Hand.
- 50 % of the sum would be made available for the candidate before the departure. On completion of the Fellowship, the Fellow must send in a report to the Secretary, ISSH to become eligible for the disbursement of the remaining amount.
- The Overseas Traveling Fellow will make a presentation about his experience in the subsequent annual meeting when the award will be given.
- The applicant must be present in person & registered for the ISSHCON to receive the cheque of fellowship amount.

Awardee for the year 2018-19: Dr Anant Sinha, Ranchi India

To download Application Form

click → https://www.isssh.org/pdf/International_fellowship_form.pdf

Last date to apply 31st July, 2019

❖ The ISSH inland traveling fellowship

is intended for young members of ISSH, for them to visit experts in the field of Hand Surgery within India. The duration has been fixed as minimum 3 weeks to ensure adequate opportunity for the fellow to have one on one interaction with the mentor. This ensures maximum benefit to the fellow from the experience of the mentor.

Number of Fellowships: 2

Terms & Conditions:

- Applicant must be an active member of ISSH for at least 3 years.
- Should have attended at least one ISSHCON at the time of application.
- The application with the applicant's CV should reach the Secretary General by email by 31st July of the respective year.
- At the time of application, the applicant should have chosen the centre that he/she wishes to visit and a tentative concurrence been obtained from the concerned department.
- Once the selection is done, the successful applicants will be issued a letter of selection which he/she can use to obtain written confirmation from the department to be visited.
- The successful applicant must write to ISSH about the plan of fellowship
 - Centre to be visited.
 - Guide.
 - Proposed dates of fellowship (spanning 3 weeks) prior to undertaking travel).
- Upon completion of the fellowship the Fellow is expected to write a 200 words summary of his/her experience with one photo 4" x 6" (300 dpi - JPG file) and send it to ISSH office by email.
- The Fellow is expected to make presentation about his fellowship experience during the annual conference of ISSH immediately following the fellowship completion.
- The presentation should be in digital projection not more than 5 minutes.
- The applicant must be present & registered for ISSHCON at the time of announcement of the fellowship.
- The applicant must be present in person & registered for the ISSHCON to receive the cheque of fellowship amount.

The awardees for the year 2018-2019 are

Dr Rohan Habbu, Mumbai & Dr Sanjaykumar Giri, Bhubaneswar

To download Application Form

Click → https://www.isssh.org/pdf/Inland_fellowship_form.pdf

Last date to apply 31st July, 2019

Excerpts from the Trustees & Secretary's report presented at the Mid Term EC meeting:

As on 31st March 2019 the financial of the ISSH Trust read as follows:

| | | |
|--|-----|--------------|
| Balance in the Bank A/C held in SBI, Chennai | : ₹ | 15,31,954.87 |
| Fixed Deposits held under various heads in SBI | : ₹ | 88,00,777.00 |
| Interest from Fixed Deposits | : ₹ | 4,67,863.00 |
| Expenses | : ₹ | 5,61,113.92 |
| Funds to be shifted to Fixed deposits | : ₹ | 13,49,223.00 |

Eventual Positions:

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|----------------|
| FDs | : ₹ | 1,01,50,000.00 |
| Balance in account | : ₹ | 89,480.95 |

As on 31st March 2019

Balance in ISSH Account operated by Secretary

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------------|
| Held in Bank of Baroda, Nashik | : ₹ | 8,39,938.05 |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------------|

On behalf of the ISSH Members, the Executive Council expresses immense gratitude towards Prof G Balakrishnan for his untiring effort in maintaining the accounts of the trust scrupulously and ensuring full legal compliances.

New Developments

The ISSH Membership now stands at 720 members including those waiting to be ratified in the upcoming GBM.

We will soon be adopting a new system for membership numbers. Once implemented all the members of ISSH will receive a unique membership card.

‘Sunday Reads’, started a few weeks ago now enjoys a viewership of about 40% among the ISSH members. It is hoped that more members access this feature so that we have enough ground to continue this effort in future.

The post of Editor, mentioned in the ISSH Constitution, has come into effect. Dr Praveen Bhardwaj has been selected by the EC to be the Editor. The role and responsibilities of the Editor will be outlined in the days to come.

ISSH is proud of the award of Pioneer in Hand Surgery received by Prof G Balakrishnan, at the recently concluded IFSSH Congress at Berlin, Germany. On behalf of the entire ISSH member group, we extend our hearty congratulations to Prof G Balakrishnan.

Dr S. Raja Sabapathy, has been elected President Elect of APFSSH (Asia Pacific Federation of Societies for Surgery of the hand). He also has been elected to the post Secretary General elect of the IFSSH (International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the hand). ISSH proud of his achievements at the global circle of hand surgery.

ISSH will have a booth during the upcoming ISSHCON 2019 at Puri Bhubaneswar. All members are invited to visit the stall and see the custom made ISSH merchandise.

For the first time ASSH has offered an International Traveling Fellowship to one member of ISSH selected from among 7 applicants. The awardee this year is Dr. J. Terrence Jose Jerome. We will know the details from him once he completes the Fellowship.

Notices:

❖ General Body Meeting:

General Body Meeting of the members of ISSH will be held on 14th September, 2019 from 1700 hrs to 1900 hrs.

Venue: Hotel Holiday Resort, Chakratirtha Road, Puri, Odisha 752002

In absence of quorum, the meeting will be adjourned and will be held at 1730 hrs of the same day at the same venue, irrespective of the number of attendees.

Members are requested to quote their membership number on the attendance register. The same can be found on the website of ISSH.

Members who have applied for membership after the last GBM are not eligible to attend the GBM as their membership will be ratified only during the proposed GBM.

An Email notice will be sent to all the members whose Emails are updated with the ISSH. No physical notice in any form will be sent.

❖ Election Notice:

4 posts of EC Members will be vacated this year on 31st December 2019.

2 of these will be upon completion of 2 years tenure as per the constitution and 2 upon completion of 3 years term, erroneously allowed to them. To maintain rotation of two years, 3 of the 4 vacant position of EC Member will be filled from among the desirous, eligible applicants.

If there are more than 3 applicants for these posts election by secret ballot will be held.

The Election will be held during and simultaneous with the GBM on 14th September 2019 between 1700 hrs and 1900 hrs at the Hotel Holiday Resort, Chakratirtha Road, Puri, Odisha 752002

Only those members of ISSH whose names were in the members register at the time of this notice are eligible for voting.

Application for Election to the post of Executive Council member needs to be made in a prescribed form

Write to the secretary@issh.org to receive the Election Application form

or Click here <https://www.issh.org/announcement.php#>

or visit www.issh.org

Last day to apply

31st July, 2019

Last day for withdrawal of application

15th August, 2019

❖ **Bids for ISSH Events:**

Bids in a prescribed form are invited from the desirous, eligible members to be the Organisers for the following events:

• **ISSHCON 2021 – 45th Annual Conference of the ISSH**

Write to the secretary@isssh.org to receive the bid form
or Click here <https://www.isssh.org/announcement.php#>
or visit www.isssh.org

Last Date to apply 31st July, 2019

• **ISSH Mid Term CME - 6th Mid Term CME of ISSH**

Write to the secretary@isssh.org to receive the bid form
or Click here <https://www.isssh.org/announcement.php#>
or visit www.isssh.org

Last Date to apply 31st July, 2019

• **ISSH Basic Hand Surgery Course:**

There is no restriction on the number of courses. The application can be made by contacting Dr Bhaskaranand Kumar, at least 3 months prior to the proposed date. There is no prescribed form currently.

Important Dates

- ❖ Announcement of Elections – *1st July, 2019*
- ❖ Deadlines for election to various posts of ISSH Executive Council
 - Application: *31st July, 2019*
 - Withdrawal: *15th August, 2019*
- ❖ Fellowship Announcement:
 - Application: *1st July, 2019*
 - Completion of Fellowships: *31st July, 2019*
 - Completion of Fellowships: *Before ISSHCON 2020, Chennai, Tamilnadu*
- ❖ Submit expression of Interest for ISSHCON 2021 *31st July, 2019*
- ❖ Submit Expression of interest for MID Term CME 2020 *31st July, 2019*
- ❖ Submit Expression of interest for ISSH Basic Courses 2020
3 months before the proposed dates of the course
- ❖ ISSHCON 2019, Puri, Odisha *13,14 & 15th September, 2019*
- ❖ ISSHCON 2020, Chennai, Tamil Nadu *11,12 & 13 September, 2019*
- ❖ ASSH 2019, Las Vegas, USA *5,6 & 7th September, 2019*
- ❖ APFSSH 2020, Melbourne, Australia *11,12,13 & 14th March, 2020*
- ❖ ASSH 2020, San Antonio, Texas, USA *1,2 & 3rd October, 2020*

Contact ISSH

Secretary General

Dr. Pankaj Nagesh Ahire

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Mobile: +91 9821467936

Email: secretary@isssh.org

Central Office of ISSH

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