Proceedings of the annual general body meeting of oits held on december 23rd, 2003

A general body meeting was held on 23.12.2003 at 6.00 pm at Hotel Swosti Plaza, attended by about forty members. In that meeting the following were decided:

1. about CITs Since it was during the cit2003, the first item discussed was regarding the International Conferences on Information Technology. The president requested the Steering Chair of cit2003 Prasant Mohapatra to introduce the topics.

A. It was decided that CIT could be held outside orissa if we find organisers/sponsors. However, the frequency of hosting outside orissa can not exceed once in three years.

It was also noted that cit2004 had been decided by the existing steering committee to be at hyderabad and was appreciated by members as the exposure of oits members to the IT scenario in hyderabad will be helpful to take up similar activities in orissa.

Consistent with the spirit of the earlier CITs, it was recommended by the general body that (i) for academic participants in cit2004, the registration fees from inside India be Rs.2000/-, (ii) oits members as such shall have a discount of 25%j, and, (iii) oits members who do not have institutional or project support shall have a discount of 50%, subject to their certifying to that effect.

B. It was also felt desirable that the constitution of the steering committee practised since december 1999 needs to be modified. It was thought desirable to have four permanent members here, and some rotating members. After some discussions, it was thought that the permanent members may be (two from USA and two from India)

1. Prasant Mohapatra
2. R N Mohapatra (Steering Chair)
3. G Panda (NIT rourkela)
4. S P Misra

It was also decided that the rotating members of the nth cit shall be the general chair(s), the program chairs and the organising chair of the (n-1)th cit along with the incumbent president of oits during the period of the conference.

Thus the general body resolution of december 1999 now stands replaced by the above.

As is the procedure now, these members of the steering committee shall seek suggestions/offers from different mebers/institutions as they may think appropriate. The steering committee list shall be intimated to all the oits members as soon as possible.

2. oits activities The president then gave a report on the activities of oits during 2003. This year there were upto the period of the conference there were a total of 198 members including 33 new members of whom about a dozen from silicon school of technology and about a dozen from around sambalpur.

A. In 2003, the olympiad test was held on 7.9.2003, the first sunday of september. There were about 1200 students appearing in the junior and senior levels. As earlier, letters were sent to all the elibible colleges and schools, and also it was announced in the website. In fact some students applied by getting the information from the website itself.

In the junior level, Bagdebi Panda from cuttack, Siladitya Mohapatra from rourkela and Amulya Ratna Dash from Puri were respectively placed in the first, second and third positions. Similarly in the senior level Puspita Ray from bhubaneswar, Parthasarathi Dash from burla, and Gita Mohanty from bhubaneswar respectively occupied the first, second and third positions. Altogether 12 winners were declared at the junior level, and 11 winners in the senior level, where the rusults were declared in the website in november. The general performance at the school level seems to have improved quite a lot, and it was sad that some good performers there could not come within the first tweleve.

B. At the request of some members from sambalpur area, it was decided that we may open a chapter of oits at sambalpur. This was inaugurated on 29th November, 2003, afternoon by Prof M C Dash, Vice-Chancellor, Sambalpur University. Prof Arun Pujari, of central University, Hyderabad gave a semitechnical talk on Artificial Intelligence. He also had earlier given a technical talk to the students there in the morning. Dr. B Patel, secretary, sambalpur chapter talked about the programs of upcoming conference cit2003, as well as about further programs of the chapter. S P Misra, oits, presided over the function, and Principal, G M College was the guest of honour.

C. This year we have brought out OITS Bulletin, the first issue being released during cit2003. This contains one article regarding cits, and an article about oits from its inception to give a background of these activities. In addition, it contains an article by J R Dash about IT revolution particularly in the context of Orissa, three articles on e-governance, an article by UNDP-Orissa hub about having taken IT to villages in Orissa, besides some other interesting articles. They have been distributed to most oits members, and if any body else wishes to have copies, they will be mailed.

It was decided in the general body that the bulletin, instead of being yearly, may appear twice a year, in June and December, with J C Hota as the executive editor.

3. Accounts The audited accounts of 2002-2003 was presented for approval. The abstract for the same is as follows:

credit: Brought forward Rs.3,13,837.03; Life members Rs.4,500.00; Donor members Rs.10,000.00; Return of advance from cit2002 Rs.40,000.00; Royalty from TMH Rs.1,516.09; Orissa IT olympiad Rs.29,600.00; S P Misra for Narayan Misra IT award Rs.45,000.00; Bank interest Rs.40,858.00.

debit: Orissa IT olympiad test Rs.25,036.00; Orissa IT olympiad prizes Rs.5,150.00; auditor Rs.2,000.00; contingency Rs.2,215.00; advance for cit2003 Rs.40,000.00; bank charges Rs.35.00.

balance; Rs.4,10,875.12 on 31st March, 2003.

Comments: Major portion of the money was in fixed deposits, except for Rs.1,04,400.12 in bank and Rs.811.00 as cash in hand.

Remarks: After 31st March, there has been major input of funds from cit2002, life membership fees, contribution by osa, return of money from nist including the advance taken for cit2001 etc. The total funds available with oits shall be more than Rs.6.5 lakhs now, after taking into account expenses.

4. Bylaws: The executive committee meeting on 20.12.03 attended by seven executive committee members and two observers looked into the bylaws in some detail and recommended the following:
A. It was suggested that article 4 regarding executive committee may be modified to include the following: (i) the constitution of the same may be made more precise; (ii) elections may take place once in two years and, any vacancy of office bearers may be filled up by the executive committee for the remaining period; (iii) the clause that the president in absence of vice-president may nominate some one to perform his duties may be deleted; (iv) the executive committee may recommend names of office bearers for consideration of the general body for election.
B. With reference to article 5 including elections etc through circulation, although the majority of members thought that it may continue, the Secretary mentioned that it may violate the act under which the society is registered. Hence it was agreed that we may hold elections as per the older format of the corresponding article, and more thought may be given to the same and a procedure be recommended in the next annual general body.
C. As per article 6, it was thought that ex-officio members from a chapter may be the president or secretary, not president and the secretary.
The general body approved these recommendations.

5. Election of executive committee members: The execitive committee on 20.12.03 had unanimously recommended the following as office bearers;

1. President: J R Sahu
2. Vice-President: S Padhy
3. Secretary: S K Pradhan
4. Secretary (overseas): P Mohapatra
5. Joint Secretary: S K Udgata (Berhampur)
6. Joint Secretary: B K Patel (Sambalpur)
7. Treasurer: A K Nayak

The general body approved the above and declared them as elected.
In addition, the following members were elected to the executive committee:

S P Misra
B Misra (bsnl)
A K Panda (ceo, elmark)
P K Behera (csa, uu)
S Torasia
S K Mohanty
A K Das (etdc)
Chitta Baral
J R Hota (ocac)

The general body noted that the executive committee as above will take charge on 1st april, 2004, and will be in office till 31st March, 2006 as per the present bylaws. The executive committee may suggest modifications in the electoral process in the next annual general body.
The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all the members.

S P Misra, President, oits.