INDIAN NATIONAL CARTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION

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MINUTES OF THE 193rd INCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (HYBRID MODE) HELD ON 4th SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 11:30 Hrs IN CONFERENCE HALL, SURVEY OF INDIA, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA

In pursuance of Letter No. 49/ECM/INCA/2025–26 dated 18th August 2026, the 193rd INCA Executive Committee Meeting (Hybrid Mode) was held on 4th September 2026 at 11:30 hrs in the Conference Hall, KGDC, Survey of India, Bengaluru, Karnataka.

The following Office Bearers and Members of the INCA Executive Committee attended the meeting:

1. Prof. (Dr.) Bimal Kumar Kar
2. Dr. Binod Kumar Singh (Online)
3. Rear Admiral Peush Pawsey (Online)
4. Dr. S.K. Srivastava (Online)
5. Shri Sandeep Srivastava (Online)
6. Shri B. Anbumani
7. Shri N. Madhusudhan Reddy
8. Shri Rajesh Kumar Khatri
9. Dr. P. Satyanarayana (Online)
10. Prof. Sarfaraz Alam (Online)
11. Shri. Rajiv Kumar Srivastav (Online)
12. Dr. R.A. Prasad
13. Dr. B.K. Ramprasad
14. Shri M.P. Gupta
15. Dr. A.K. Bera (Online)
16. Shri. J. Gurumani (Online)
17. Dr. Vandita Srivastava
18. Prof. Ravindra G. Jaybhaye (Online)
19. Dr. Dhanjit Deka.
20. Prof. Prafull Singh (Online)

Prof. (Dr.) Bimal Kumar Kar, President, INCA, presided over the meeting and extended a warm welcome to all the members attending the meeting both physically and online. He requested Shri B. Anbumani, Secretary General, INCA, to take up the agenda items and conduct the proceedings of the meeting.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 192nd INCA Executive Committee Meeting

Shri B. Anbumani, Secretary General, INCA, briefly presented the salient points of the Minutes of the **192nd INCA Executive Committee Meeting**, which had already been circulated to all members through email. The members were invited to offer their comments and suggestions, if any.

As no comments or suggestions were received from the members, the Minutes of the 192nd INCA Executive Committee Meeting were **confirmed and approved unanimously**.

2. Discussion on the Latest Status of Accounts and Publications of the 45th INCA International Congress

Due to prior commitments, Dr. Manjit Singh, Organising Secretary of the 45th INCA International Congress, could not attend the meeting. However, he communicated the latest status of the Congress accounts through email.

He informed that the major pending payments and expenditures had been settled and that the remaining documents and formalities were being completed for the final closure of the accounts. However, the payment from NSDI was still pending despite repeated follow-ups.

After discussion, the President, INCA, directed the Secretary General to request the Past President, INCA (2024–25), to guide the LOC in **expediting the submission of the updated accounts, publication status and supporting documents to INCA Headquarters.**
The Past President of INCA, Dr. Binod Kumar Singh, assured the members that all pending issues would be resolved, the accounts of the 45th INCA International Congress would be closed, and the audit of the Congress accounts would be completed within the stipulated time.
In view of the above, the President, INCA, suggested that an **online meeting be convened within the next few weeks** with the INCA Executive Committee members and the Organising Committee members of the 45th INCA International Congress, Bihar, so that the latest and complete status of the Congress accounts and other pending matters could be placed before the next Executive Committee.

3. Discussion on the Progress of Organizing the 46th INCA International Congress
Prof. (Dr.) Bimal Kumar Kar, President, INCA, invited all EC members to attend the 46th INCA Congress to be held at Gauhati University along with their needful guidance, support and cooperation for its success, and requested Dr. Dhanjit Deka, Organising Secretary of the 46th INCA International Congress, to present the latest status of preparations for the Congress.
Dr. Dhanjit Deka presented the progress of the Congress preparations and demonstrated the official website of the **46th INCA International Congress** to the members. He explained that the website contains information relating to the Congress, including the scientific themes and topics, registration, login facility, organising team and contact details.
He highlighted the following major aspects:
1. Focal Theme: *Smart Cartography for a Sustainable Common Future*
2. Host Institution: Department of Geography, Gauhati University, Assam (NAAC A+ Accredited)
3. Academic Collaboration: Commonwealth Geographical Bureau, connecting geographers and geographical institutions across 56 Commonwealth countries.
Dr. Dhanjit Deka explained the above aspects in detail and briefed the members on the progress made towards organising the Congress.
The members of the Executive Committee appreciated the efforts of the President, INCA, and the Organising Secretary towards making the necessary preparations for the successful conduct of the 46th INCA International Congress.
The members also suggested that the deadline for submission of abstracts may be extended to provide additional time for prospective participants and contributors.
The following points were also discussed:

- A proposal was made to write a formal letter to the Chairman, ISRO, inviting him as a Guest in the Inaugural Function of the Congress, with a view to facilitating funding support from ISRO or IN-SPACe.
- **Registration Fee Waiver for EC Members:** It was decided that EC members attending the Congress physically would be exempted from payment of the conference registration fee.
- **Registration of Local Chapters:** Requests for complimentary registration from Local Chapters were discussed. It was decided that if a Chapter wishes to be represented at the Congress, the Chapter itself shall bear the registration fee of its nominee.
- **Invited Guests:** The Organising Committee may waive the registration fee for specifically invited guests, depending upon their credentials and at its discretion.

4. Discussion on INCA Membership – Honorary, Life and Fellow
Shri B. Anbumani, Secretary General, INCA, informed the House that INCA Headquarters had received a nomination/application from the **National Hydrographic Office (NHO), Dehradun**, for consideration of **Rear Admiral Peush Pawsey, Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India**, for conferment of the **Honorary Fellow – F.C.A. (Ind)** of INCA, along with his detailed bio-data.
The Secretary General presented the bio-data and briefed the members on the professional achievements and services rendered by Rear Admiral Peush Pawsey in the fields of hydrography, cartography and allied areas.

The proposal was discussed in detail by the members of the Executive Committee. After due consideration, the House **unanimously approved** the proposal for conferment of the **Honorary Fellow – F.C.A. (Ind)** of INCA on Rear Admiral Peush Pawsey.
The meeting decided to inform the decision to Rear Admiral Peush Pawsey and to make it possible to honour him as the Hon. Fellow of the INCA during the inaugural function of the 46th INCA International Congress at Guwahati.

5. Discussion on State Affairs and INCA National Map Quiz–2026
Shri N. Madhusudhan Reddy, Secretary-I, INCA, presented the status report on the affairs of various State/Local Branches of INCA and the proposed conduct of the **INCA National Map Quiz–2026**.
The presentation covered the activities undertaken by various Local Branches, including branch meetings, observance of Cartographic Day and other activities, as well as the progress made towards conducting the INCA National Map Quiz–2026.
INCA National Map Quiz–2026 – Status
The following points were brought before the House:

- The National Map Quiz Final was scheduled to be held on **12th September 2026 from 11:00 to 13:00 Hrs**.
- Three sets of coordinate-based questions and one set of satellite imagery questions had been submitted to INCA Headquarters. These were combined and dispatched to the Local Branches along with necessary instructions.
- The results were proposed to be announced on **29th September 2026**.
- The prize distribution ceremony was scheduled to be held during the inaugural function of the **46th INCA International Congress on 19th November 2026**.

The following State-wise updates were also placed before the House:

- **Jodhpur:** Five teams selected, corrected from six teams.
- **Uttarakhand:** Seven teams selected due to a tie among three teams.
- **Jharkhand:** Six teams selected.
- **West Bengal:** The Local Quiz was scheduled to be conducted the following day, after which the State would participate in the National Quiz.
- **Assam:** The Chapter had been formed recently but had not conducted the Local Quiz.

The members were also informed about the number of States/Local Branches participating in the INCA National Map Quiz–2026, and the status of State representation and branch activities was presented before the House.

Strategies for Strengthening Local Branches
The following strategies were suggested:

- Focus on university academia, particularly Departments of Geography and Geoinformatics, as potential sources of active members and leadership.
- Coordinate with ISRO, Survey of India and NHO to encourage student participation and membership.
- Engage State Remote Sensing Centres in Haryana, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka for increasing Life Membership and branch activities.
- Share State-wise lists of Life Members with active members to facilitate personal outreach and reactivation of dormant members.
- Encourage young, energetic and dynamic members to take up leadership responsibilities and strengthen the activities of Local Branches.

It was further informed that the **top three teams of the National Finals** would be honoured during the inaugural function of the 46th INCA International Congress at Guwahati and would be treated as special guests of the Congress.
The members appreciated the efforts of Shri N. Madhusudhan Reddy towards strengthening the activities of the Local Branches and organising the INCA National Map Quiz–2026.

6. Discussion on Publication of the INCA Journal

Prof. Sarfaraz Alam, Chairman, Editorial Board, INCA, informed the House that only a limited number of research papers had been received so far for publication in the INCA Journal.

The following points were highlighted:

- Only **five papers** had been received so far, comprising four new submissions and one paper carried forward from the previous Editor.
- The deadline for submission of papers was **15th September 2026**.
- A minimum of **10 to 15 quality papers** would be required to ensure the final publication of approximately 10 quality papers for the National INCA Conference.
- All papers would be subjected to a strict peer-review/refereeing process.

Prof. (Dr.) Bimal Kumar Kar, President, INCA, suggested that all members of the Executive Committee should contribute quality research papers from their respective areas of expertise and encourage other scholars to submit suitable papers for publication in the INCA Journal.

The President further directed Prof. Sarfaraz Alam to approach universities and academic institutions and request them to contribute research papers for early publication of the INCA Journal. The matter was noted by the House.

7. Acceptance of New INCA Life Membership Applications

Shri B. Anbumani, Secretary General, INCA, informed the House that **twenty-one (21) new applications for Life Membership** had been received at INCA Headquarters.

The applications had been duly scrutinised and recommended by the Screening Committee and were subsequently placed before the Executive Committee for consideration and approval.

After due consideration, the House **approved all twenty-one (21) Life Membership applications**.

The President, INCA, warmly welcomed and congratulated the newly inducted Life Members.

The members observed that this was the **highest number of Life Membership applications received at INCA Headquarters during a period of three months**. It was also noted that a substantial number of the applications had been received from Gauhati University following the efforts and encouragement of Prof. (Dr.) Bimal Kumar Kar and Dr. Dhanjit Deka.

The members appreciated and applauded their efforts towards increasing membership and strengthening the activities of INCA.

8. Discussion on the Date and Venue of the 194th INCA Executive Committee Meeting

Prof. (Dr.) Bimal Kumar Kar, President, INCA, informed the House that the **194th INCA Executive Committee Meeting** was proposed to be held on **18th November 2026**, one day prior to the inaugural function of the 46th INCA International Congress at Guwahati.

He further informed that the meeting was proposed to commence at **6:30 PM**, followed by dinner.

The House took note of the proposed date and programme.

9. Any Other Points with the Permission of the Chair

- **Request for Relaxation of Registration Fee for Jharkhand INCA Chapter Members**

  Shri B. Anbumani, Secretary-General, INCA, informed the House that INCA Headquarters had received an email from Dr. Sahdeo Ram, Secretary, INCA Jharkhand Branch, requesting relaxation of the registration fee for members of the Jharkhand INCA Chapter who wished to participate in the **46th INCA International Congress–2026 at Guwahati**.

  The Jharkhand Chapter informed that its Executive Committee members had agreed to attend the Annual Congress and requested the Secretary-General, INCA Headquarters, to place the matter before the Executive Committee for consideration and communicate the decision at the earliest. The request was made on behalf of **five members** for consideration of registration-fee relaxation.

  The matter was placed before the members of the Executive Committee for their views and consideration. After due deliberation, the Executive Committee decided that the **prescribed registration fee shall be borne by the individual members themselves or may be paid by the Jharkhand Chapter, if the members are officially nominated by the Chapter**.

- **Secretary General Nomination:** A proposal was made that future nominations for Secretary General should preferably be from the Director level or above from the Survey of India, in order to facilitate effective communication with senior officials in the administrative hierarchy.
- **National Visibility of INCA:** Concern was expressed regarding the relatively low visibility of INCA in national map-making and geospatial data policies. It was suggested that INCA should nominate suitable representatives to relevant Government committees, including committees under DST, to enhance its participation in policy-level discussions.
- **Member Identity Cards:** A proposal to introduce ATM-style identity cards for INCA members would be placed before the General Body for consideration and financial approval.
- **Inactive Email IDs:** A suggestion was made to remove inactive email IDs from the INCA server in order to reduce server load.
- **Conference Date Overlap:** The House noted the overlap between the INCA Conference scheduled for **19–21 November 2026** and the NAGI Conference scheduled for **20–22 November 2026 in Maharashtra**.
- **Reactivation of Life Members:** State-wise lists of Life Members would be shared with active members to facilitate personal outreach and reactivation efforts.

There being no other matter to discuss, the meeting concluded with the thanks of the Chair.



(ANBUMANI B.)
\ Secretary General, INCA



(BIMAL KUMAR KAR)
President, INCA