

The general body meeting of the Robotics Society of India was held at BIT's Pilani Goa Campus on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2015.

Prof. Ashish Dutta welcomed all the members and read out the agenda items for the meeting.

1. First, the minutes of the last RSI GBM held on 6<sup>th</sup> July in IIT Delhi were read out and confirmed.
2. The members were then informed about the current status of RSI as follows:
  - i. Total amount in RSI Bank account Rs. 5,11,450/-
  - ii. No. of members of RSI 330
  - iii. Registration process:

The initial registration application submitted to the concerned ministry has been rejected as NOC from all the respective states could not be obtained. The basic objection is due to the use of the word 'India' in the name of RSI .

3. The venue of holding the next AIR 2017 conference and the office bearers were discussed
  - a) AIR 2017 will be held in IIT Delhi in July (dates will be finalized later).
  - b) General Chair: Santanu Chaudhury, IIT Delhi.  
Co- Chair: Anuj Kapuria , Hi Tech Robotics Systems.
  - c) Program Chair: Subir Kumar Saha , IIT Delhi  
Co- Chair: Sudipto Mukherjee, IIT Delhi
  - d) Publications Chair: Ashokan T , IIT Madras
  - e) Publicity Chair : Alok Mukherjee, DRDO Pune  
Madhava Krishna, IIIT Hyderabad.
  - f) Local Organization Chair: Sumanta Dutta Roy , IIT Delhi

4. Several members expressed their view that the RSI website needs to be improved.  
It was agreed that Mr. Rajeev Lochan would be the new web coordinator and he would improve the RSI website.

5. The Following were also suggested.

- i. A repository should be created and linked to the RSI website that would store robotics related information. The repository may be named "Robository"
- ii. Industry may be allowed to host their product advertisements on RSI website. The companies may be charged for this purpose on a yearly basis.

- iii. Robotics industries have stated the concept of an online store as 'roboticsweb-store'. RSI could get associated with this activity by linking the website in RSI website.
- iv. Before the next AIR 2017, workshops should be held at different locations to popularize RSI . The next work shop will be held in Tezpur University in Dec 2015 to be followed by a summer school in July 2016 in IITM.
- v. Robotics lectures collected from several of the RSI workshops can be put up on the RSI website.

6. Several suggestions were received regarding the conduct of AIR 2015 at BITs Goa.

- i. It was suggested that the conference should have a plenary talk by an Indian research Lab.
- ii. Doctoral Symposium: A mentor should be assigned to each student.
- iii. The conference should be publicized from at least one year before July 2017.
- iv. Accommodation for students should be decided early, so that there is no problem for booking tickets.
- v. ACM copyright procedure should be clarified clearly, so that the proceedings contain the actual papers.
- vi. This time in AIR 2015 there were no best paper awards. It was suggested that best paper awards should be given in the next conference. AIR Prize of Japan-India Friendship for Human Community was awarded to the paper:" Virtual Robots Module: An Effective Visualization Tool For Robotics Toolbox", by Ratan Sadanand, Rajeevlochana G. Chittawadigi, Ravi Joshi, Subir Kumar Saha (IIT Delhi).