



PHYSICS ACADEMY OF THE NORTH EAST

GUWAHATI, ASSAM, INDIA
<https://www.paneindia.org/>

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Minutes of the PANE (Executive Body) meeting, held on 30th December, 2025.

Members present: Prof. N. Nimai Singh, Dr. Samrat Dey, Dr. Ranjan Kalita, Dr. Debajyoti Dutta, Dr. Yajnya Sapkota, Prof. Kushal Kalita, Dr. Debasish Borah, Dr. Abhijeet Das, Dr. Yubaraj Sharma, Dr. Rupak Mukherjee

Members absent: Dr. Ratan Das, Dr. Lalthakimi Zadeng, Dr. Manos Pratim Chakrapani Kalita, Prof. Pradip Kumar Kalita, Dr. Nabendu Kr. Deb, Dr. Thongam Gomti Devi, Dr. Shanta Singh Naorem, Prof. Syed Arshad Hussain

The meeting was held in online mode on the Google Meet platform. The chairman, Prof. N. Nimai Singh, called the meeting to order and welcomed the members. He asked Dr. Samrat Dey, the General Secretary, to take up the matters on the agenda. Dr. Dey then placed the agenda items serially for detailed discussions by the members.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:01: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 October 2025 – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Samrat Dey presented the minutes of the PANE (Executive Body) meeting which was held on 13th October, 2025. Since the minutes had been circulated among the members before the meeting, the minutes were presented in brief, and the gathering approved the minutes of the meetings.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:02: Matters arising out of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 October 2025 – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Dey informed the members that all official documents of PANE are now ready, and that a meeting with the Education Minister of Assam would be sought shortly to present a proposal for establishing a permanent office of PANE in Guwahati. He also expressed his sincere appreciation to the Convener of the last Regular PANE Conference, Dr. Shanta Singh Naorem, for successfully organising the conference at Nagaland University. Dr. Dey introduced the newly appointed State Representatives, Dr. Yubaraj Sharma (State Representative for Meghalaya), and Dr. Rupak Mukherjee (State Representative for Sikkim). He further informed the members that PANE would soon approach various governmental agencies and education ministries to explore funding opportunities aimed at strengthening and sustaining its activities.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:03: Selection of Sikkim University as the venue for the upcoming 28th Foundation Day of PANE and preparations thereof – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Dey informed the members that the Department of Physics, Sikkim University, has expressed its preparedness to host the 28th Foundation Day Celebration of PANE, and requested Dr. Rupak Mukherjee to present the proposal. Dr. Mukherjee apprised the members of the facilities available at Sikkim University. While appreciating the willingness of Sikkim University to host the celebration, Prof. Nimai Singh emphasised the long-standing tradition of holding the Foundation Day celebrations in and around Guwahati, the Head Quarter of PANE, in order to ensure maximum participation. He encouraged Sikkim University to consider organising other academic events, such as a workshop, under the banner of PANE in the near future. All members, including Dr. Mukherjee, agreed to this suggestion. Dr. Dey further requested Dr. Mukherjee to explore the possibility of hosting the Regular PANE Conference in 2027 at Sikkim University. Dr. Dey also proposed that IIT Guwahati may be

considered as a venue for the 28th Foundation Day Celebration of PANE, and requested Dr. Debasish Borah to comment on its feasibility. Dr. Borah indicated that this would be possible, and suggested that the Executive Body may also explore the interest of other institutes in Guwahati that have not previously had the opportunity to host the Foundation Day celebrations.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:04: Consideration of conferring the Young Scientist Award, Young Teacher Award, and Woman Scientist Award at the 28th Foundation Day of PANE, through appropriate search and selection committees, as per “PANE(GB):2025:18NOV:03” – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Dey informed the members that the General Body has suggested the introduction of the Young Scientist Award, Young Teacher Award, and Woman Scientist Award. While appreciating the initiative, Prof. Nimai Singh suggested that the Young Teacher Award may be deferred for the time being, as the selection process could involve certain complications. The members unanimously agreed to proceed with the Young Scientist Award and the Woman Scientist Award. Dr. Dey proposed the formation of a sub-committee to draft the rules and procedures for selection, as well as to propose the constitution of the selection committee, which may include some PANE Fellows and other eminent physicists. The sub-committee's recommendations would be presented at the next Executive Body meeting for approval. The proposed members of the sub-committee were: Prof. Kushal Kalita, Dr. Debasish Borah, Dr. Abhijeet Das, Prof. Thongam Gomti Devi, Dr. Samrat Dey, Dr. Ranjan Kalita, and Dr. Debajyoti Dutta. The Executive Body unanimously approved the proposal.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:05: Approval to co-opt the coordinator of the sub-committee “PANE Website Design and Management Committee” as a temporary member of the EB to ensure effective coordination and timely website updates – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Dey proposed that the Coordinator of the sub-committee “PANE Website Design and Management Committee”, Mr. Himanshu Bora, be co-opted as a member of the Executive Body to ensure effective coordination and timely updates of the PANE website. The proposal was unanimously approved by the members.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:06: Updates on the editorial team of Physics Education Review – The Education Journal of PANE as per “PANE(EB):2025:4AUG:06” – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Dey informed the members that the editorial team for the educational journal of PANE has been almost finalised, and that request emails seeking acceptance of responsibility have been sent to most of the proposed members. The members who have responded affirmatively (or are expected to respond affirmatively) are as follows.

- Chief Editor: Dr. Samrat Dey (Pragjyotish College)
- Editors: Dr. Pranab Jyoti Bhuyan (Cotton University), Dr. Indu Kalpa Dihingia (Ningbo University)
- Editorial Board Members: Dr. N. Nimai Singh (Manipur University), Dr. Atri Deshamukhya (Assam University), Dr. Madhurjya P. Bora (Gauhati University), Dr. Debojit Sarma (Cotton University), Dr. Subhaditya Bhattacharya (IIT Guwahati), Dr. Devabrat Mahanta (Pragjyotish College), Dr. Soumitra Sengupta (IACS), Dr. Gazi Ameen Ahmed (Tezpur University), and Dr. D. J. Saikia (National Centre for Radio Astrophysics, TIFR).

Prof. Nimai Singh proposed that the journal title “Physics Education Review – The Education Journal of PANE” be modified to emphasise “PANE” more prominently in the main title. Dr. Debasish Borah suggested the revised title “PANE Journal of Physics Education”. While agreeing to the proposal, Dr. Samrat Dey mentioned that the change can be implemented by duly reflecting the same in the PANE Constitution through a minor amendment and the amended draft Constitution can be expected to be finally approved by the General Body later. Prof. Nimai Singh observed that this should not pose any major difficulty, as the first issue of the journal is yet to be published. All the members accepted the proposal.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:07: Strategies for expanding Life Membership of PANE in view of the recently amended PANE Constitution – Dr. Yajnya Sapkota

Dr. Sapkota informed the members that he would shortly write to Heads of Departments and faculty members of various higher educational institutions offering postgraduate degrees in Physics, requesting them to inform students about the opportunity to apply for Life Membership of PANE. He highlighted that, following the recent constitutional amendment, any Physics graduate is now eligible to apply for Life Membership. He also requested all Executive Body members to circulate this

information widely among their professional contacts. The members appreciated and endorsed the proposal.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:08: Updates on the next Regular PANE Conference to be held at Bodoland University – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Dey informed the members that he has been in regular contact with faculty members of Bodoland University regarding preparations for the 16th Regular PANE Conference. He has already apprised them of the PANE regulations governing Regular PANE Conferences and has suggested that the Organising Committee be finalised at the earliest. He further informed the members that possible publishers for the Conference Proceedings have been suggested to the host institution, and that they have been advised to apply to relevant funding agencies at the earliest. Dr. Dey conveyed that the faculty members of Bodoland University have assured the Executive Body that they would take the necessary steps promptly.

PANE(EB):2025:30DEC:09: Any other matter (with the permission of the chair)

Prof. Nimai Singh requested the editors of the PANE Journal of Physics to keep the members informed about forthcoming issues of the journal. In response, Dr. Debasish Borah informed the members that only one article is currently awaiting the final review report, after which the issue would be published. Dr. Debajyoti Dutta further informed the members that work on the special issue of the Journal of Subatomic Particles and Cosmology, comprising selected articles from the 15th Regular PANE Conference, is progressing smoothly.

The President, Prof. N. Nimai Singh and the General Secretary, Dr. Samrat Dey, thanked all the members who were present in the meeting. The meeting was then adjourned.

Dr. Samrat Dey
General Secretary, PANE

Copy to

1. All the executive board members of PANE.